

## Opec to freeze current oil price and output levels

GENEVA (AP) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani said Wednesday he expected current Opec oil prices and output levels to stay frozen during an Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries price and production review meeting that opened here.

Yamani reaffirmed that his country, Opec's leading producer, would freeze prices at \$29 a barrel until the end of 1985, and said it would keep that price despite pressure from other cartel members seeking to boost revenues.

Yamani, citing the need to be realistic, spoke to reporters just before the 13 oil ministers began a review of price and production strategies amid sluggish markets and a worldwide oil glut.

"We expect this meeting to confirm that all prices will stay frozen until the end of 1985, at the very least," Yamani said. "We have to be realistic and therefore their stated positions should apply to overall Opec production."

"We will stick to this, irrespective of what others might want to do," Yamani added.

The conference at Geneva's Intercontinental hotel is expected to last three to four days, but without producing any surprise price or production hikes. As usual, police took security precautions, posting armed officers around the hotel, checking entering guests with airport-style metal detectors, and posting plain clothes officers in the lobby.

The 13 oil ministers met to consider recommendations of their Market Monitoring Committee for maintaining the benchmark price of \$29 set last March, and a production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels-a-day of combined output, its lowest in 14 years.

The recommendation is in line with the approach long advocated by Yamani, who has been urging a price freeze in the hope that the budding industrial recovery in the West would eventually boost demand.

Describing the world oil market now as soft, Yamani added however that he expected demand to begin picking up next year as the economic recovery progresses. Although he was optimistic about increased economic activity in the second half of 1984, he said a cut in the price of Britain's North Sea oil would be serious.

Iran, meanwhile reaffirmed it would seek a five-dollar rise in Opec's benchmark price, to \$34, presumably to help

finance its three-year-old war with fellow Opec member Iraq. Iranian Oil Minister Mohammed Gharazi told reporters that Saudi Arabia should cut its oil production if necessary to maintain the higher price.

Geneva Star Correspondent  
Carrie Nell Thompson  
filed this report:

For weeks financial analysts have been speculating as to the course the Opec members would take. Most have predicted much haggling regarding both production and price, but concluding with little or no change in the present status (17.5 million barrels per day at \$29.00 per barrel). Oil analyst David Gray of the London stockbrokerage of James Capel and Co. was even quoted in the "International Herald Tribune" as saying, "What they ought to do is meet for 45 minutes flat then reaffirm their stated positions issued following their ten-day meeting in London last March."

Nevertheless, correspondents from around the globe pace the halls of Geneva's Intercontinental Hotel, hoping to snatch a few minutes with one delegate who might divulge an inside track regarding an unexpected turn of events.

The world sits and the correspondents hover as all ponder: Will the thirteen members of the Opec resolve to hold prices at status quo, as the four-man market monitoring committee (Venezuela, Algeria, United Arab Emirates and Indonesia) wish? Will they stand firm on limiting production, contrary to the wishes of Iran, Iraq, the UAE and Venezuela? How strong will the pressure be to curtail a repetition of Saudi Arabia's 1983 third quarter surge in supply to the world market? Will Saudi, in turn, upset the balance of supply versus demand?

Politically, will Iran and Iraq act on their threats to bomb and counter-bomb such that the Strait of Hormuz would close, thus abruptly ending the present oil surplus which is otherwise projected to continue at least until 1990? Will non-Opec oil-producing nations such as the United Kingdom, Russia, and Mexico have to play by Opec's rules? Will the conservation movement which has grown steadily since the oil embargo of 1973 continue to develop, or is the turn-around trend of back-to-big-automobiles as is increasingly being seen in the United States a sign of renewed complacency by major oil-consuming populations?



**DISMAL SCENE:** Rescue workers spray water over the remains of two jetliners which collided in heavy fog on the runway of Madrid International airport on Wednesday morning (AP Wirephoto)

## 104 die in Madrid plane collision

MADRID (AP) — At least 104 people perished on Wednesday when two Spanish airliners collided in heavy fog on an airport runway prior to takeoff.

Transportation Minister Enrique Baron said 23 passengers and eight of the nine crew members of the Iberia Boeing 727 aircraft headed for Rome survived the crash. He said 61 passengers and one crew member died when the Iberia plane was hit by DC-9 of the Spanish domestic airline Aviaco.

All 37 passengers and five crew members of the Aviaco aircraft headed for Santander in northern Spain were killed.

The crash occurred at 0945 local time (0845 GMT) with the visibility less than 15 metres because of fog. Barajas International Airport had been closed to incoming flights since the early morning because of the fog. Only a few outgoing flights had left the airport before the collision.

Officials said they were attempting to determine why the Aviaco airliner had tried to enter the takeoff runway when the Iberia aircraft was beginning its takeoff.

According to the civil guard, the majority of the passengers on the Rome-bound Iberia flight were not Spanish nationals. There were several Japanese and an es-

timated 11 Italians, two West Germans, a Pole and a Moroccan aboard.

Some Japanese survivors, whose bodies could not be immediately identified, were said to have been hospitalized in Madrid hospitals.

They were identified only by their family names which are the same in Japanese, an indication the victims were relatives.

Hundreds of rescue workers combing through the steaming wreckage, picking up pieces of bodies and wrapping them in blankets.

The search and rescue efforts were hampered by the fog.

"We all heard the explosions, but none could find the planes," said Jose Rodrigo, a baggage handler for Iberia who was loading an aircraft at the time of the collision. "We ran out towards the crash. A survivor had to lead us to the wreckage."

A policeman whose face was covered with soot wiped his brow and told reporters: "This time it's worse. The bodies are in little pieces. Last time they were burned, but whole."

The same officer had searched for bodies and survivors after the crash of an Avianca Jumbo jet on 27 November. The aircraft crashed just short of the Madrid airport runway on a flight from Paris.



Shamir under America's umbrella

The Christian Science Monitor, in its editorial of Friday, 2 December criticized the Israeli-US agreement and wrote that the US is giving everything to Israel and not being able to get anything in return. There never was any approval or agreement with Shamir about reviving the Reagan peace plan. There was no pressure by the US to get Israeli promise to freeze the Jewish settlements on the West Bank, and reviving on the autonomy talks with Egypt.

American commentators and diplomatic correspondents on the other hand, thought that under the circumstances it is

a high price for the US to pay (Israel) in order to sway the Syrians through Israeli fire power, backed by the United States, to get out of Lebanon. Thursday, 1 December, Prince Bandar Sultan, Saudi Arabia's new ambassador to Washington, handed President Reagan a letter from the Saudi Monarch, King Fahd, which in essence indicated that the king wants to get out of Lebanon only after it learns about Israeli intentions for complete withdrawal from Lebanon.

There are reports that the Syrian army is ready to let the Israelis move out of Lebanon, and they, in turn, will schedule the departure from Lebanon, and let the Israeli-Lebanese agreement take course, without being nose-fed into a stomach to accept the agreement that saw as another violation of the UN's sovereignty. Published reports from Lebanon indicate that there are many who think that Israel should not go after the Syrians in order to get even with them for the UN.

Secretary of State George Shultz, President Reagan and Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger all talk about "defence" and have insisted that they continue to hit Syrians or other targets who are attacked. The United States, according to many observers, have been the peaceful mission of the Marines in Lebanon, and the US forces in Lebanon are not want any lengthy and dangerous presence of the US forces, which might ignite a Russian-American confrontation in the Middle East.

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## Shooting engulfs Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanese army clashed on Wednesday with anti-government militiamen in Beirut's southern districts and state ra-

## US warships blast Syrians

WASHINGTON (AP) — The battleship "New Jersey" and two other US warships fired 70 shells at anti-aircraft positions in Syrian-occupied areas of Lebanon on Wednesday in the heaviest US naval bombardment so far.

Defence officials said the "New Jersey's" 16-inch guns sent 11 shells, each weighing about 1,200 kilos, inland from the Mediterranean while the cruiser "Ticonderoga" and destroyer "Tahiti" aimed about 60 five-inch shells at surface-to-air and anti-aircraft gun sites.

dio said two soldiers and one civilian had been killed.

Four heavy mortar shells landed about 100 metres from the headquarters of the British contingent of the multinational peacekeeping force, but a British spokesman said the 97-man unit suffered no casualties.

In the northern port of Tripoli, rival Palestinian groups traded mortar and automatic weapons fire early in the day following two evening attacks by Israeli gunboats on positions held by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's loyalists.

Mr. Arafat's troops blasted away with automatic weapons at Israeli jets as they flew reconnaissance flights over the city on Wednesday, but scored no hits.

In Beirut, state radio reported that heavy clashes with all kinds of weapons broke out at mid-day in Beirut neighbourhoods along the "Green Line" dividing Christian east Beirut from the largely Muslim western sector.

Four shells landed around the British headquarters in Hadath about 11:30 a.m., according to spokesman Maj. Alex Twickel.

## Qasem says US should pressure Israel to withdraw

By Khader Mansour  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — "The United States is able, and at any time, to persuade, or rather to force, Israel to adopt a serious attitude towards peace, including the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon," says Foreign Minister Marwan Al-Qasem. In an interview with The Star, Mr. Qasem said, "If the US fails to do so before it is too late, this will mean that the potential dangers of such a situation will spread to threaten peace in larger areas, within and outside the Middle East."



Marwan Al-Qasem

may lead to clashes between the superpowers in our region."

While the Arabs are "truthfully working for a genuine peace," he said, the Israelis, "by effect of their arrogance, brute force and huge arsenal, are keen to carry on with their territorial ambitions and dreams."

Mr. Qasem re-emphasized that a peaceful solution "ought to observe the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, because they are the major element in the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Israel, in turn, should fully realize that she cannot have both peace and land. She can have peace in return for land, he said, but it is to be borne in mind that "Israel only talks peace while the Arabs — all Arabs, I can say, including the PLO — favour a sensible peace." He said the Fez summit peace proposals are an example of the Arabs' peaceful intentions.

The Arabs, however, are being very careful, not to admit any concessions, or justifications that

## Aqaba's hotels threatened with collapse of business

By Kalhy Kakish  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A crash of up to 95 per cent in bookings at Aqaba hotels in the usually busy months of October and November this year has added to the woes of the Red Sea resort's tourist industry. The cancellation of large numbers of bookings for those months comes on top of a general drop in business of about 30 per cent from last year — a decline that one hotel manager refers to bitterly as an "omnithalation" of the industry.

That hotelier's bitterness, or at least his anxiety, is typical of a number of people in the business contacted by telephone from Amman. For example, Holiday Inn Manager Jean Lancelle says that so far this year his hotel's average occupancy has been down only 13 per cent — from a rate of 73 per cent to one of 63 per cent — but that it was hit with 95 per cent cancellations for October and November. With most of the winter yet to come, the hotel waits anxiously.

Coral Beach Hotel Assistant Manager Narcissa Domingo put her hotel's cancellation rate during the last two months at 80 per cent. A general decline of 30 per cent for the year 1983 comes on top of a drop of the same proportion during 1982 from 1981, she said. At the time of speaking to The Star, she still had several bookings for Christmas and New Year — and was hoping that they would not be cancelled.

The 80 per cent occupancy recorded at Aqaba Hotel in 1982 slid to 22 per cent this year, said Manager Araf Abdul Rahman told The Star. He said that bookings had been made to fill 75 per cent of the hotel's rooms during November, but cancellations brought the actual rate achieved down to 50 per cent. He said occupancy was kept up to that level, instead of falling to 10 per cent, only by the fact that several foreign companies booked

The Star presents an in-depth report on the plight of the Aqaba resort and its implications for the national tourism industry. Tourism Director Michael Hamarneh gives his viewpoint on page 4

ate their employees at the hotel, so that it doesn't have to depend on the tourist business entirely.

### Sector hits

"The plight of the tourism industry in Aqaba is bound up closely with the ills of the whole country's tourism sector (see page 4). But Aqaba hotels seem to be the most acutely affected. Many of them are said to be losing hundreds of dinara a day, and some are on the verge of bankruptcy. Several hotels have closed some of their floors, and others have shut down their luncheonrooms to have their evening restaurants do double duty.

Industry experts both in Amman and Aqaba discount speculation that Aqaba's problems as a tourist destination have a lot to do with its proximity to the growing industry and port areas. "Of course, you can't have both of them together because of the limited space, but there are no problems for the time being," said Mr. Lancelle. Munir Nassar, Manager of the International Traders travel agency in Amman, told The Star that if both activities are planned to a certain scale, they can do well in the limited space available.

The tourism professionals attribute the problems to a number

Continued on page 4

## Farmers risk wheat crop by waiting for more rain

By Pam Dougherty  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — "Farmers, plant your wheat and barley now," is the message the Agriculture Ministry has been sending out in a radio, television and newspaper campaign for two past few weeks. Despite these efforts and the few rain showers that have occurred so far, experts fear that farmers may be missing the best planting time.

Because the weather on the whole remained dry and warm until quite late in December, many people imagined that Jordan was suffering from a drought and that the lateness of the rain was causing a problem for farmers.

But, according to Mr. Nabil Katkhuda, head of the research and field crop section of the min-

istry's Research and Extension Department, the problem is not the late rain itself but the way farmers react to it.

Mr. Katkhuda told The Star that the department advises farmers to plant their wheat and barley in November, but only about 20 per cent of them do so. Most farmers prefer to wait until after the first good rains of the winter, but this presents two dangers.

If the rains are late than planting will be late, the crops will not have enough time to grow and yields will be poor. On the other hand, if the farmers wait for the rain the ground may become too wet and muddy for ploughing and they will not be able to plant a crop at all.

Many farmers worry that if they plant early and there is an

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## Rainwatchers risk crops

Continued from page 1

curly rain shower, the plants germinate and then be at the further rain is late in coming. Mr. Kalkhuda says that experience shows that this is not fact, a great danger.

He says that he has visited areas where crops were planted in November and the plants are now two to three centimetres high and very healthy. Although there has not been much rain there has been dew, and the low night temperatures have prevented excessive evaporation of ground moisture. He says the soil is still moist and in any case the plants do not need much moisture at the beginning of the growing cycle.

Another agricultural expert said that the only crops which face a threat from early rain, then a dry spell are small scale forage crops. He said that, for example, in the region south of Mudaba 15-20 millimetres of rain fell early in November enough for the plants to germinate but not enough for them to put down roots.

Without more rain during December these crops could be at risk. But the risks associated with early sowing are still less than those of late sowing.

He said that unfortunately most Jordanian farmers are over-cautious and want to wait until they are certain of the rain. He said that unfortunately most Jordanian farmers are over-cautious and want to wait until they are certain of the rain.

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## Superpower conflict threatens area, Prince Hassan warns

By Kathy Kakish  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan is doing its best to preserve the Middle East region from the grave dangers posed by superpower involvement and inattention to the Palestinian issue. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said this week. Conscious of pressures upon it that may derive from lack of a satisfactory settlement Jordan is re-asserting the "family relations" between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. It is also moving towards the revival of parliamentarianism in the country.

Addressing the two-day Arab-American-Canadian Conference which opened in Amman last Saturday, Prince Hassan stressed that current dangers in the region threaten to cause a superpower conflict.

More than 25 intellectuals, university professors and high ranking governmental officials of several Arab states, America, Canada as well as some European countries gathered for the two-day conference, which was sponsored by the Arab Thought Forum. They discussed papers which were presented on topics such as the present situation of the Middle East, political, social, economic and cultural dynamics among Arabs, the Israelis and the Arabs and their problems. One aim was to reconcile perceptions and interests deriving from the changes in the Arab and North American attitudes.

In his opening speech on Saturday, Prince Hassan said that

past attempts to solve the Lebanese crisis were not appreciated in the political framework in some parts of the world. Thus, the rapid deterioration in Lebanon has doubled the area's problems as well as adding further dimensions which ought to be handled for any peace process to get under way in the Middle East.

Jordan has made all possible efforts to follow the proposals of the Reagan plan, Prince Hassan said. Although there was no doubt that an agreement of any form with the PLO leaders at that time would have pushed forward the peace process, the talks held with those leaders were futile.

Prince Hassan said that the reasons behind such a failure were numerous — but what they all had in common was the hesitation of PLO leaders, who did not want to anger the extreme wing in the organization.

The confrontation between Syria and Israel led to a basic change in the balance of power in the area. The result may be that Israel's presence in the West Bank will be recognized, and Lebanon will be exposed to great danger. The pressures will also increase on Jordan from the north and the west. Accompanying this pressure is the demographic movement into Jordan as a result of the social and economic pressure on the Palestinians. This demographic movement has already caused a political imbalance in Jordan as well as a social instability.

"Jordan is seriously taking a look into the family relations

between Jordan and Palestine," he said. The aim behind this is to protect and preserve the Arab identity of those Palestinians under the Israeli occupation. Such a preservation of identity will enable Jordan to maintain the middle ground between the extreme political sides.

Prince Hassan also referred to His Majesty King Hussein's announcement that Jordan plans to look seriously into reviving Parliament, to give the people a part in deciding their future, because "the help and support of all is needed to achieve a fair and just peace settlement."

Prince Hassan said that it is clear that America cannot achieve peace in Lebanon or in the area as long as the Soviet Union is not included in the process. There are two steps to be taken before peace could prevail: First to solve the Lebanese problem, and second, concentration on the major issue, Palestine.

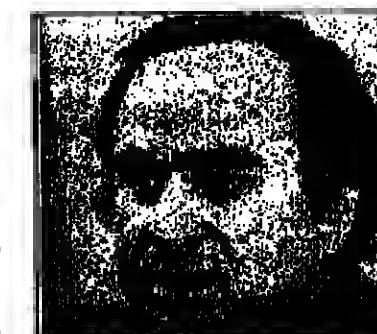
## 'Reagan plan meaningless'

By Khader Mansour  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — President Reagan's Middle East peace initiative became meaningless when former Israeli Prime Minister Begin flatly refused it, and became even more meaningless after the United States and Israel signed a strategic accord, former US Senator James Abourezk told The Star this week.

Mr. Abourezk, founder and chairman of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (AADC) was in Amman for the Arab-American-Canadian forum. Speaking of the best manner to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict, he said "The US should uphold all forms of aid to Israel unless Israel responds to the basic legitimate rights of the Palestinians. Without such a step, peace in the Middle East remains beyond reach at least in the foreseeable future."

Commenting on the American political decision-making process he said it has been



James Abourezk throughout influenced by the Zionist economic power and lobby. When asked if the US can force Israel to pull out its forces from Lebanon he said "Of course she can; but as I pointed out the American administration (all American administration) yielded to Zionist votes and money." He noted that the US gives Israel 50 per cent of its general aid as grants, and under the recent strategic accord the proportion will be 100 per cent.

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# AQABA Cold winter for resort hotels

The Jerusalem Star Special Report

Continued from page 1

of factors. These include slack marketing efforts on the part of all agencies concerned with tourism to Jordan; travellers' misperceptions of the political situation in the Middle East; high prices that discourage tourists; and Jordanian attitudes that make tourists feel uncomfortable.

## Attitudes

The problem of attitudes is one among several things that the hoteliers said must be changed before Jordan will in itself become the ideal vacation spot it has the potential to be, experts said. These things are independent of the problems of marketing, politics and prices. For instance, Jordanians often require their foreign visitors to behave in accordance with local customs.

Mr. Abdul Rahman said that tourists must not be expected to behave exactly as the people of

the host countries do, to the smallest detail. They should be given the same freedom they can find in any tourist resort in the world, he said.

Sam'an Qussous, Manager of the Miramar Hotel in Aqaba, strongly emphasised this same point. Tourism will never improve if tourists are constantly pestered by people who ridicule them, by children who throw stones at them, by the numerous regulations and restrictions and by shopkeepers who overcharge them, among other things, he said.

It is a frustrating thing when tourist-guides do not have a good enough command of English for communication. Mr. Qussous also accused local tourist agencies of not taking proper care of tourist groups here.

Mr. Abdul Rahman complained that the public beaches southeast of Aqaba lack sanitary facilities and washrooms. Beach users are turning the place into a

junkyard as they leave their picnic rubbish behind them on the beach, he said.

He said Aqaba, the Royal Jordanian Airline has not helped the situation by doubling ticket prices to Aqaba to JD 25 as well as enfeebling two of its three afternoon flights.

## Sunset curfew

Several professionals concerned said that Aqaba does not have much to offer, especially at night. Time. A sunset swimming curfew makes many guests wonder about what to do with the long evening hours. The few hoteliers who own discos and night-clubs tend to keep them closed to avoid the fights that are sometimes provoked when guests are bothered by local residents.

Although hoteliers have recently established a rally club to stimulate sports activities, it seems that such a thing has come about too late. As for the prospect of hiring local bands and singers, Mr. Abdul Rahman said that on the one hand it needs several governmental approvals, and on the other, local bands charge quite expensive rates that at least his hotel cannot meet.

## Prices

Prices in general are a problem for both tourists and hotels. Mr. Qussous said that ironically, a vacation in Cyprus was cheaper than one in Aqaba — even for Jordanians. Adding up the costs of tickets, taxi fares to and from the airport, sometimes over-charged goods sold in the market as well as the hotel rates, a visit to Aqaba for three days would equal a week's vacation in Athens.

Making another comparison, he said that in Frankfurt, tourists are charged DM 15.50 for a week's stay in Jordan, including a visit to Aqaba. It costs DM 7.10 for the same amount of time spent in the nearby Israeli resort of Eilat.

Continued on page 5

## Government seeks 'balance' in its policy on tourism

Director-General of Tourism Michael Hamarneh comments on tourism issues in this interview, compiled from statements given to Star reporters Lella G. Deeb and Amal Ghandour



Michael Hamarneh

TOURISM IN Aqaba is threatened both by industrial pollution and by Westerners' misperceptions about Middle East tensions, says Director-General of Tourism Michael Hamarneh. But he says the main obstacle standing in the way of increasing Aqaba's and Jordan's popularity with international tourists is the failure to develop tourism within the country.

Mr. Hamarneh told The Star that he agreed that hotels should be subsidised through the application of concessionary utility rates, and subsidies on certain items, just as other industries are. He also said that all regulations relating to tourism should be brought together under one comprehensive national law. In Aqaba in specific, he said that while industry had been allowed to develop in an uncontrolled manner, the government was evolving a policy which would put an end to this.

Such a policy would be designed to create a balance between the tourism and industrial sectors. He acknowledged, though, that until now little policy attention has been paid to "the fact that industry is polluting the area. And if we do not do something about it, then tourism will be obstructed and defeated as a major economic sector, especially in Aqaba."

The tourism director explained that the main prerequisite for flourishing tourism in Aqaba is a clean shore and clean water. Aqaba depends on its unique corals and underwater scenery. Such treasures, he said, would be lost if the government does not undertake steps to prevent pollution.

"But the government realizes the problem, and is planning to do something about it," The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment has received a report recommending that any future industry be built 10 miles east of the shores of Aqaba. This, Mr. Hamarneh said, would eliminate any danger to the environment and the waters.

Mr. Hamarneh also suggested that "Aqaba has to be freed from the heavy traffic of trucks," which, he said, is stifling tourism activity. The government is currently considering the construction of a road from the shore eastward, connecting via a ring road with the desert highway.

## Domestic tourism important

However, the popularity of Aqaba among foreign tourists — and by extension, the popularity of the whole country — is linked to its popularity with Jordanian visitors. "We have seen many developing countries that have attempted to promote foreign visitors to come to their lands," Mr. Hamarneh said, "and it has always been obvious that the successful tourist countries are the ones that also cater to the recreational and travel demands of their own people."

"We firmly believe that if the local population is not appreciating and enjoying the historical, natural or leisure attractions of its own country, it cannot aspire to attract foreign visitors and make them feel welcome and comfortable. Whether in the fields of marketing, information or pricing, a country that aspires to contribute to international tourism must first demonstrate that its own people are taking advantage of the touristic and travel resources that it has to offer."

Sixty per cent of income from tourism in developed countries derives from domestic travel, he said. If Jordan continues to depend on "income from outside tourism, then any political upheaval in the area would lead to a definite decrease in touristic activity, and therefore, a decrease in essential revenues." Hence an emphasis on domestic tourism would ensure a steady flow of revenues in case of political instability in the area.

To encourage local tourism, Mr. Hamarneh said that the government has to step in and subsidize the facilities, for example, to allow the hotel industry to use the special industrial electricity rates, thus equating the tourism industry with other local industries. Another way is to subsidize air or overland travel within the country. "The government subsidizes health and education, so why not tourism," he asked rhetorically.

## Comprehensive law

But to open the country's borders to foreign tourists cannot be done without a coherent, precise and long-term tourism strategy. "An important element of a future Jordanian tourism policy will have to be the formulation of a comprehensive, advanced national tourism law. Such a tourism law is needed to provide both the legal framework within which local and

Continued on page 5

## JPRC fills gap with fuel bids

Refinery company tenders for purchase of products

By Steven Ross  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A tender invitation that comes due next Monday will mark the first time in nearly 20 years that Jordan has bought any oil products from another country, except for occasional purchases of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).

The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) will on 19 December open bids for the provision of 100,000 tonnes of fuel oil, and 60,000 tonnes of diesel oil. Offers will be accepted for supply of the two products separately, which can be on a C & F Aqaba basis, or including transport by any suitable means to the tank farm at JPRC's refinery in Zarqa.

JPRC Assistant General Manager Omar Kalimat told The Star that Jordan had begun importing some middle distillates, benzene and kerosene, in the early

1960s. LPG was added to the list soon thereafter. But since 1965, he said, the Jordanian refinery has been able to supply all of the country's needs of oil products, except for the occasional LPG imports. JPRC uses crude oil which it receives from Saudi Arabia via the TransArabian Pipeline (TAPline).

Mr. Kalimat said a surge in demand for fuel oil and diesel had been caused by the introduction of several new heavy industries in the past year or two, causing local demand to outstrip the refinery's production temporarily. The refinery itself also needs an increased supply of fuel oil to use as a feedstock for a unit recently added, which "cracks" the oil into several lighter products. However, the company hopes that by the middle of next year it can equalise supply with demand.

Mr. Kalimat said he believes that the 100,000 tonnes of fuel oil and 60,000 tonnes of diesel

fuel will be sufficient to meet all demand for the time being. The firm's refining capacity was brought up to more than 12,000 tonnes a day of throughput in a recent expansion project designed by the US' Universal Oil Products Company and executed by Industrial Export of Romania.

Asked about future possible expansions or other contracts, Mr. Kalimat said that JPRC was planning to add some large storage tanks, perhaps during the next year. Another idea is to build a tank farm at Aqaba, to meet an expected surge in demand for oil products in the southern region.

The refinery is not handling crude oil from any sources besides the TAPline at present, he said. It would be possible for it to take crude feedstock from any other country; but this would probably require some adjustments to the refining units to allow them to handle different types of oil.

## Many factors account for tourism woes

Continued from page 4

Room rates and prices of meals are set by the government. Several hoteliers complained about increases of around 30 per cent in fees for power, water and other necessities. "We haven't raised group prices for the last two years although there have been such (utility) increases," said Ms. Domingo. "Electricity bills alone constitute 17 per cent of our revenues."

But how much do prices affect bookings? Mr. Nassar commented that the decrease in tourism is in large part due to the economic recession Europe is

facing. "Europeans," he said, "now tend to have their vacations in neighbouring countries, by which they can cut down on expenses by car travel."

Mr. Abdul Rahman disagreed. "Tourist operators in European countries are facing a 15 per cent decrease in their business — and certainly not near 100 per cent as we are," he said.

## Politics

Political "instability" in the region, and the mistaken belief by travellers that conflicts in places like Lebanon or Iran endanger travellers to Jordan, is

generally seen as a large factor in reducing bookings. But some disagree with this notion, as well. Mr. Abdul Rahman pointed out that Israel and Egypt, two other Middle Eastern countries that could also be thus perceived, were not affected nearly as much as Jordan.

Mr. Qussous also said he refused to believe that the political situation has affected tourism. It was not affected when Lebanon's troubles began about 10 years back, or when the Iraqi-Iranian war broke out three years ago, he said.

## Marketing

All involved agree that marketing is one of the major problems. If not the most important one. But the hoteliers and agents, all of whom work in the private sector, were practically unanimous in saying that private efforts alone could not do the job. And efforts exerted so far by the government and others have not done enough.

Despite the trade fairs attended by the government, hoteliers and Aqaba during these past two years, much more aggressive marketing is badly needed, said Mr. Nassar.

Mr. Abdul Rahman said that several foreign tourism promoters refrain from even talking to Jordanian agents because the promoters already deal with Israeli tourist agencies. Government-sponsored advertisements are most needed because private tourist agencies cannot afford to come out with such campaigns, he said.

The problems have long been recognized. Aqaba and Jordan hold as much attraction for the international tourist as they always have — yet obstacles block the exploitation of that attraction. "We have tried to talk with many people in authority for the last couple of years," said Mr. Qussous. "But no one wants to listen to us." He said that if tourism does not improve, it would be better to turn Aqaba into a sanatorium for the physically and mentally handicapped, with nursing homes for the elderly. "For that may benefit the country better than tourism does," he concluded.

## Spa power project attracts 10 bids

TEN FIRMS, most of them Jordanian, submitted offers for the construction of a power generating station at the Zarqa Main spa, according to Michel Masannat, Vice Chairman of the Jordan Tourism and Spa Complex Company. Mr. Masannat said 18 companies had bought the tender documents. Tenders for the 2.4 megawatt station are now being evaluated, and an award is not expected before the end of the month.

## Customs post expansion tendered

FIRST AND second-class contractors invited to bid for the expansion of the Omari customs post, including the installation of metal sunshades of 2,300 square metres and concrete structures over 600 square metres. Details upon payment of JD 100 from the Government Tenders Directorate. Closing Date: 28 December.

## Engineers seek consultants

CONSULTANCY FIRMS are sought for design and construction supervision of the third phase of the housing estate of the Engineers' Yarmouk Co-operative Housing Society, 1a Tla' Al 'Ali. Details upon payment of JD 50 from the society secretary in Yarmouk district, Suweileh. Closing date: 31 January, 1984.

## Contractors prequalify for lab

THE PUBLIC Works Ministry seeks contractors with electromechanical specialisations or affiliated sections to apply to be prequalified for bidding in the construction of the Health Ministry's general laboratory building. Details upon payment of JD 20 from the Government Tender Directorate. Closing Date: 3 January 1984.

## Road asphalt project

OPENING AND asphalt of 5000 square metres of roads to the Tabarbour housing estate of the Public Security Officers' Housing Fund. Open to first and second-class contractors. Details upon payment of JD 30 from the consultants, SBK engineers, Amman tel. 44414. Closing Date: 22 December.

## New Opportunities

CONSTRUCTION and asphalt: Open to contractors classified up to Category B, buildings and roads. Details upon payment of JD 20 from the Royal Corps of Engineers. Closing Date: 27 December.

TELEPHONE PARTS: Retender. Spare parts for automatic telephone exchanges of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces. Details upon payment of JD 10 from the Royal Communications Directorate. Closing date: 8 January 1984.

BOOK PRINTING: Publication of school books for the Ministry of Education for school year 1983-84. Details upon payment of JD 10 from the Ministry's tenders secretary. Closing Date: 20 December.

PIPE SUPPLY: 2,000 tonnes of HR Coils for the Jordan Pipes Manufacturing Company. Details upon payment of JD 5 from the firms offices in the Arab Bank, Mahatta branch, second floor, Tel 51468. Closing Date: 18 December.

ENGINEERING SERVICES: For the Department of Lands and Survey building in Amman. Open to registered consulting offices affiliated with soil testing specialists. Details upon payment of JD 5 from the local tenders committee, Public Works Ministry. Closing Date: 19 December.

CONSTRUCTION: Annex to barracks at King Hussein Medical Centre. Details upon payment of JD 10 from Royal Corps of Engineers. Closing Date: 20 December.

## Telstar shows off luxury ships

By Mohammad Al-Shanli  
Special to The Star

AMMAN — Jordanian press members became acquainted with services offered by "Al-Arish" and "Al-Tur", two vessels that operate between Aqaba and Suez, during a recent voyage to Egypt sponsored by Telstar, the ships' agent.

The trip, in addition to familiarising the group with the services and the modern technical equipment available on board both ships, included a tour of ancient sites and museums in Cairo.

The two vessels "Al-Arish" and "Al-Tur" are deluxe ferries

with comfortable first-class cabins and quality furnishings. Second-class cabins are also available, and two sitting rooms offer television and video. There are a cafeteria and two first-class restaurants in each ship, where meals are offered at reasonable prices. Duty-free shopping is also offered.

The vessels can make the trip between Aqaba and Suez in 17 hours. Each is in contact with all parts of the world by radio.

The ships, built in Norway to conform to international standards, can carry 150 cars each.



## economy

# Argentina gives choice of negotiations — or collapse

By Andrew Thompson

THE STAKES will be high when Argentina's new democracy, under the presidency of Raul Alfonsín, opens debt negotiations with the world's bankers, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the industrialised countries.

The incoming Radical Party administration inherits a foreign debt problem which is virtually insoluble in terms posed, it will face increasing economic difficulties if the international financial community presses for harsh terms. With the opposition dominating the unions, and with expectations rising, the results could be explosive.

The debt crisis broke after the South Atlantic conflict, but was inevitable given the scale of the borrowing spree after the 1976 coup. With encouragement from the international financial community, Argentina's debt has risen from about \$8 billion to more than \$40 billion.

Only a portion of these funds was invested productively. A much larger part went on luxury imports, financial speculation (recycling money through Argentina was highly profitable) and arms purchases. Burdened by soaring interest rates, the removal of protective tariffs and an artificially cheap dollar, domestic industry fell into a deepening recession.

The exact size of the debt is unclear. The central bank has admitted that loans worth several billion dollars were never registered for what it calls "state security reasons" (assumed to

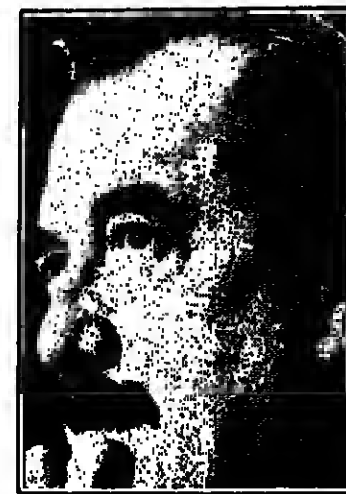
be arms purchases). Some state enterprise borrowing is also missing from the central bank's register, while a number of private loans may have escaped official notice because the borrowers were involved in tax evasion or illegal speculation. All this, according to one expert, could mean a total debt of \$16 billion to \$18 billion by the end of this year.

The picture is worsened by the bunching of maturities. Some \$18.9 billion of capital repayments fell due in 1983, none of which has been paid. The total includes \$7 billion in state company debts, \$4.6 billion in private loans on which the central bank issues an exchange-rate guarantee, and up to \$1.8 billion in "swap" — private loans taken out under another exchange-rate insurance system. The rest comprises private sector and commercial debt.

### Stalled talks

All these capital repayments have been under renegotiation through the year, but the rescheduling effort was badly hampered by the outgoing military government. Talks ground to a halt when the creditors and the IMF concluded that the government was incapable of making decisions.

The incoming civilian government will have to complete the renegotiations, and at the same time begin talks on 1984 maturities. These are estimated at \$9 billion, but could total \$12 billion if the capitalisation of unpaid and overdue interests is taken into account. This year's trade surplus, by contrast, will be in the region of \$3 billion. Next



Raul Alfonsín: A daunting challenge

year's surplus could reach \$3.5 billion, a figure still dwarfed by the debt servicing burden.

The new Radical government faces a daunting challenge. To consolidate democracy, it must ease social tensions. But after years of falling wages, a new bout of austerity designed to generate funds to meet debt charges would only heighten unrest.

Bernardo Grinspun, the new government's Economy Minister, says that the new government will need time. Like his counterparts in the Peronist Party, he argues that an expansion of GDP is the only solution.

Grinspun says that 40 per cent of industrial capacity is currently idle. By increasing real wages, the government could reduce that percentage and lay the ground for real growth, he says. This, he adds, would have to be coupled with tax reforms, greater control of public spending (especially arms purchases) and careful monetary policy if inflation is to be reduced from its current level of almost 400 per cent.

But all this depends on the government securing a breathing space on the foreign debt. The message which the Radicals hope to convey to the foreign bankers is that excessive demands will only lead to social chaos and the collapse of democracy. The banks, so the argument goes, would then have even less chance of getting their money back.

Oscar Camillo, a former foreign minister and a member of the Movement for Integration and Development, which came fourth in the elections, believes that the banks have yet to realize the magnitude of the problem. "At a recent meeting of international bankers I said that Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico could not hope to pay their debts when interest charges alone were consuming 63 to 65 per cent of export earnings. They thought I had my figures wrong, and that I was talking of interest and capital payments. But I was right, and I was talking about interest payments alone."

The Radicals are discussing an approach in which they would decide how much Argentina can afford to pay annually, while leaving room for an increase in essential imports consistent with a gradual domestic recovery. Most put the figure at \$2 billion to \$4 billion.

The party believes that political negotiations must be held with creditors. Its manifesto makes this clear.

South/Third World Media

## Financial Market Report

# Down go the prices

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

THERE IS no sign that prices will improve in the near future. Among the reasons for this is the normal price decline during the first few months of each new year. This situation explains that the treasury's willingness to forego its commission in an attempt to activate the market has been a failure, and that the actual causes behind the recession were different. This recession has to be examined by economists and financiers to determine those actual causes.

Prices continued to decline this week, together with activity. About 380,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 885,000 divided among 1,000 contracts: a decrease of 17.7 per cent compared to last week. The daily handling average came to about JD 175,000, but deviation around this average was 17 per cent or 3.6 per cent of the total market.

### Banks

The banks sector had 57.9 per cent of the total market, a decrease of 1.2 points compared to last week. Within this sector, four out of 16 banks had 67.1 per cent of the sector or 38.3 per cent of the total. The Arab Bank had 33.5/19.4 per cent; National Bank of Jordan had 16.3/9.4 per cent; Islamic Bank 9.5/5.5 per cent and Jordan Securities Corporation 7.8/4.5 per cent.

### Industry

The industrial sector had 30.3 per cent of the market — an increase of 2.8 points. Within this sector, five out of 30 companies had 47.7 per cent of the sector's business or 15.1 per cent of the market total.

Jordan Petroleum Refineries Company had 17.3/5.5 per cent; Intermediate Petrochemical Industries 9.0/2.9 per cent; National Steel Industry 8.6/2.7 per cent, and Jordan Dairy and Jordan Cement Factories each had 6.4/2.0 per cent.

### Services

The services sector had 7.7 per cent of the total, a decrease of 3.3 points. Within this sector two out of eight companies had 49.2 per cent of the business — or 3.9 per cent of the weekly market total.

Jordan Electric Power Company had 25.1/2.0 per cent and National General Investments 24.1/1.9 per cent.

### Insurance

The insurance sector had 4.1 per cent of the market — up 1.6 points on last week. Two out of 12 insurance companies had 44.8 per cent of sector or 1.9 per cent of total: Jordan-French Insurance with 4.9/1.1 per cent and Petra Insurance with 19.9/0.8 per cent.

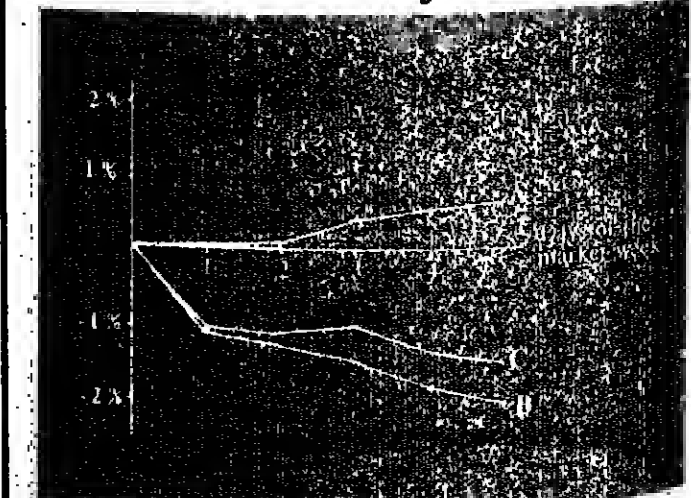
The shares of 66 companies were handled during this week. Price decreases outnumbered advances 35-14. Notable gainers included: Jordan Worsteds Mills, closing at JD1.400 up from JD 1.300; and Islamic Bank, at JD 3.560 up from JD 3.350.

Price declines included: National Steel Industry, closing at JD 2.340 down from JD 2.510; National Insurance at JD 8.500 down from JD 9.050; Philadelphia Insurance at JD 1.260 down from JD 1.340; and Arab Investment and International Trade at JD 1.700 down from JD 1.790.

Seventeen companies recorded no change in their share prices.

The Star price index at closing time came to 326.5 — down 4.2 points or 1.3 per cent from last week. In the over-the-counter market, 235,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 165,000.

## The weekly record



A. Companies showing an increase in stock prices  
B. Companies with a price decrease  
C. The mean record figure

By Colla Smith

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israelis have not had much cause for national celebration lately. They are in the worst economic depression they have known and the bleeding in Lebanon continues.

So when the release of 4,600 Arab prisoners brought the return of six young men captured 15 months ago by the PLO there were scenes akin to the reception afforded the heroes of Entebbe. They were carried shoulder-high and doused with champagne, currently costing about \$50 a bottle here.

Radio and television jettisoned scheduled programmes to give hours of live coverage. Reporters chronicled every tear, including those playing havoc with the unregimental eye make-up on the women military police who witnessed the happy event. Now the party is over and a national hangover is setting in.

Two very senior officers, one just retired and the other still serving, have made damning statements about the circumstances surrounding the conscripts' capture. General Rafael Eitan, who retired as Israel's Chief of Staff earlier this year, described their conduct as "chaotic". Major-General Orrin Orr, who as OC Northern Command is in charge of all Israeli soldiers in Lebanon, implied cowardice because they allowed themselves to be captured without a fight. An opposition Labour MK (Member of Knesset) accused the government of submitting to terrorist extortion, "something which has never resulted in the saving of lives."

## Row over released IDF men

# Former army chief says they are cowards



Warm embrace for the released soldiers after their arrival in Israel

Members of the Broadcasting Board agreed that their coverage had been "overdone".

Then President Chaim Herzog, who as a major in the British Army fought with the Guards Armoured Division during the Second World War, appeared to back up Eitan's statement by saying he agreed with its "tone". The outraged parents of the six prisoners-of-war demanded an audience with him and, after an hour in his official residence, emerged somewhat

mollified to say that the president had been quoted "out of context."

But the matter will not be allowed to rest there. The elder brother of one of the freed soldiers, Private Raphael Hazan, has alleged that some of the prisoners had been so poorly trained they did not know how to use their weapons. He is demanding a public enquiry, claiming that an earlier investigation conducted by staff officers while the men were still held prisoner

was a whitewash. The affair comes at a time of considerable self-examination among Israel's military establishment.

Domestically the Lebanese campaign, in which 557 Israeli soldiers have died during the past 18 months, is undoubtedly the most unpopular war Israel has ever fought. One hundred and ten reservists, some of them decorated men serving in elite combat units, have declared they will not go to Lebanon or the occupied territories. Several of

them have done time in military prisons for refusing to join their units.

There has also been a marked decline in the number of kibbutzim volunteering to become combat units, which entails a fourth year of extra service. Although only 3 per cent of Israeli society lives on a kibbutz nowadays, the kibbutznik, raised on a diet of socialist farming and military Zionism which seems to make for a quiet breed of super-patriot, has traditionally made a contribution to the officer corps out of all proportion to his numbers.

The six released men, whose ages range from 19 to 21, were all serving in a Nahal unit, an acronym for "Nahal Hahitachlut", which means "Lehithab Poneit". Fourth in the Nahal concept combines military with agricultural training to send settlers to insecure areas, parts of the occupied territories, for instance.

Conscripts who volunteer for the Nahal have to serve an extra six months, but it is a way of friends sticking together and it is less monotonously military than other units. It is probably true that their rural pursuits probably prevent them from training as hard as most Israeli soldiers. Once they have completed their basic training, Nahal soldiers are mobilised for regular service from time to time. Many of them serve in paratroop and armoured regiments.

ONS

## Peace returns to Tripoli

By Aernout Van Lyoden

TRIPOLI, (ONS) — A tense, almost unattractive peace descended upon the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli last week as the UN considered the kind of help needed by PLO chairman Yasser Arafat and his remaining four thousand loyal fighters in their evacuation from the city.

The population reappeared from their houses and shelters to take stock of the damage and to wander out on the streets, which were calm for the first time in the weeks. The evacuation negotiations, co-ordinated by Tripoli's elder statesman, former Prime Minister Rashid Karara in Damascus, have centred, finally, on the technical details of Mr. Arafat's departure.

Agreement on UN protection was reached when the Security Council granted Mr. Arafat's request for the use of UN flags on the ships that will take him and his men to their host countries. There was some opposition from the British and Americans to this use of the flag, but the reservations were dropped by the humanitarian objectives, especially the hope that Tripoli would be spared further bloodshed.

The evacuation, in five ships, will leave Mr. Arafat and his men scattered throughout the Arab world. The destination of most of those men is fixed. They returned to Lebanon this year after having been accepted as residents of countries as diverse as Tunisia and South Yemen, following the PLO's withdrawal from Beirut last year.

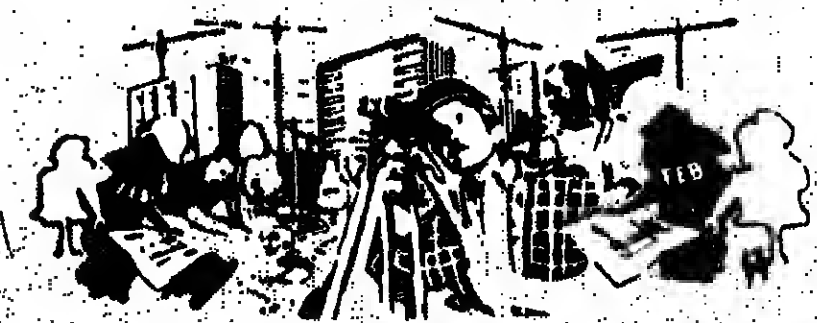
But for the 1,200 or so men who were evicted by the Syrians from their bases in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, new host countries will have to be found, something which could be difficult. Final details of the evacuation will rest with the Lebanese government. "We are asking for guarantees," said Ahmed Abdel Rahman, Mr. Arafat's official spokesman, "guarantees about who takes over the front line positions of our men when they assemble at the harbour, guarantees that the harbour will not come under fire while we are there and guarantees that the ships will be able to sail unhindered."

No longer is there any mention of guarantees for the safety of fighters who opt to stay behind or the Palestinian refugees now living under the reign of the rebel forces in the camps north of Tripoli. After the death of hundreds of his fighters, Mr. Arafat seems to have recognised the reality that the most he can hope for in Lebanon is to get himself and most of his men out in one piece.

The rubble of the shelling lies uncleaned on the streets of Tripoli and no one wanders far from home. The front lines, which today lie well within the boulevards of the city, remain a no-go area; they have become the preserve of the snipers.

Abu Adab is one of this rare breed of agents of sudden death. A young, somewhat withdrawn man, he boasted: "I've killed a few this week, but now we've had orders to hold our fire."

## middle east



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# Changing image of the Arab in the United States

Most Americans, rightly or wrongly, have tended to picture two intellectual images from the Arab world: That of the poor uneducated peasant represented by the camp dweller, and that of the fluent, well educated government official. In the following article, Star correspondent Carrie Nette Thompson examines a speech delivered recently by the newly-appointed Saudi Arabian ambassador to the United States, Prince Bandar Bin Sultan. His audience included Americans and Middle Eastern intellectuals and political leaders.

IF, IN view of recent sensationalized stories peppered US news media, Americans have come to question the ethics and moral code of a vast number of the Saudi population, Prince Bandar is making a much effort to reverse this image. And in no way being subtle in his attempt to do so. Rather, he stresses and re-emphasizes the all-importance of Islam in present-day Saudi Arabia, and the listener is left with the feeling that the currently chic "born again" movement among the Christian society of the US is matched in intensity only by the fundamentalism of Islam in the Arabian Peninsula.

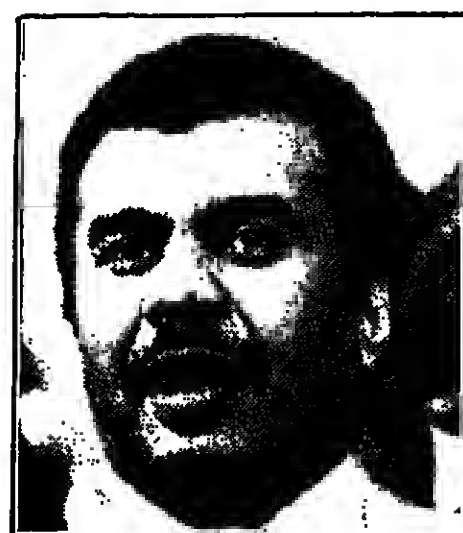
Prince Bandar states emphatically that the number-one priority of the Saudi government "is our belief in God and our commitment to Him through Islam." He continues, "The West seems to forget this" but for us, its (Islam's) central importance is indicated by the fact the Holy Quran is our constitution and the Sharia our main body of law... Those who see Saudi Arabia almost entirely in terms of barrels of oil, financial reserves, and major development projects are not just insensitive — they lack a basic sense of what the Kingdom is all about. Saudi Arabia, for example, is the guardian of the two most holy cities of Islam. For strategic thinkers in Washington... in want to talk with us about the security of our oil fields but not of the

holy cities and main population centres and, indeed, the country as a whole, shows a blindness to what Saudi society holds most essential."

Prince Bandar was even more pointed when he discussed the relationship of the US and Saudi governments. "When Pentagon planners, members of Congress, or

**"Those who see Saudi Arabia almost entirely in terms of barrels of oil, financial reserves, and major development projects are not just insensitive — they lack a basic sense of what the Kingdom is all about."**

others seek to talk with us about the importance of having costly air cover for the oil fields but then want to insist there should be no or little US defence equipment for the western and northern part of our country where the holy cities and protective bases for those cities are located any responsible Saudi official has to say, at least to himself you have got to be kidding. You don't know how that impacts on our society — and on my conscience."



Prince Bandar Bin Sultan

One often hears speculation that "the younger princes" of Saudi will rebel against the more conservative generations that have preceded them ever since oil wealth placed the Kingdom in its present strategic power position. But if this is to be so, Prince Bandar is, at least officially, disproving this prediction as he continues to hammer at the theme of religion being the foundation for all secular action in his country. "For us, Islam is a far more profound source of strength than the necessary defence steps which we have also undertaken. And I say that as one who has spent all of his adult life as a military professional — until my new and very recent assignment in Washington. Our legitimacy is valid so long as we work within Islamic parameters."

"The frequent Western view that material development is dissolving long-accumulated, deeper identities is shallow and self-deceiving... The underlying point which I seek to make is simply that what we are all about in Saudi Arabia, both domestically and in our external relations, is deeply rooted in our own special identity, history, setting, and above all, religious traditions."

Apart from the stress Prince Bandar places on the religious foundation and continuing influence it plays in his country's daily functioning, his second emphasis is on Arab brotherhood, with special emphasis directed toward the cause of the Palestinians — people whom he characterizes as "those Arabs most victimized." He recognizes the strong criticism frequently hurled at the Arab nations regarding their own inability to unify their efforts. To this accusation he replies, "Differences undeniably exist within the Arab world. But sharp differences also exist within NATO and the broader free world coalition; and in practically every other group — and can usually be managed. Outside efforts from one source or another are made from time to time to split off this or that country, or group of countries. But the net result is to provoke unnecessary rivalries, foster radicalism, and reinforce

Israeli intransigence. All that destabilizes the region."

"At the same time, it imperils vital interests which the international community has there — including certainly the United States. Sooner or later, the fictionalism and polarization also lead to direct or indirect super-power testing. And in the cockpit of the Middle East, that places world peace seriously at risk."

**"No one... should be deceived into thinking that what is sought concerning Lebanon can last except briefly or is more than a band-aid, unless the underlying Arab-Israeli conflict is comprehensively resolved..."**

It should not be overlooked that all of the global nuclear alerts of the last decade and a half have occurred over sudden developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict... The United States repeatedly shows that it is unwilling or unable to bring about Israeli flexibility, including even when America has made very specific requests — as during the invasion of Lebanon, and then as to the partial Israeli withdrawal limited to undercut the negotiations leading to the present ceasefire."

Continuing his specific stress on the plight of the Palestinians, Prince Bandar states, "No one... should be deceived into thinking that what is sought concerning Lebanon can last, except briefly or is more than a band-aid, unless the underlying Arab-Israeli conflict is comprehensively resolved..." Our problem with Inosco (Camp David) accords was not so much with what was said, but with what was not said, and the consequences of that. Similarly, our principal difficulty with President Reagan's historic statement of 1 September, 1982, is its not recognizing the God-given right of the Palestinian people to self-determination in a territory of their own. The United States has been the principal champion of self-determination for many decades. In any event, the Arab states responded immediately and constructively to President Reagan's initiative with the unanimously adopted Foz Resolutions... We frankly wonder — and with concern — why someone in authority does not clearly speak out concerning the immediate, total and continuing Israeli rejection of President Reagan's initiative."

There can be no argument but that a truly firm stand with Arab brotherhood, behind Palestinian self-determination, from such a position of power based on size, strategic location, oil wealth and moral rectitude would enhance almost beyond measure the image of the Arab in the United States.

## "A weak PLO will lose hold on Palestinians at large"

FROM WHAT one could observe in foreign press reports and from other sources, the performance of the Lebanese leaders at the Geneva reconciliation conference was watery. Some may have been more reasonable than others, but all failed to put Syria in its place as an observer, alongside Saudi Arabia, and not as an active participant. The role played by the Swiss president in pouring oil on troubled waters was an object lesson in teaching by example.

Since then, the situation in Lebanon has worsened. Syria's military action in support of the Palestinian dissidents against Arafat's followers, in north Lebanon, the continued skirmishing between leftist militias aided by Syria, and the Lebanese army in the southern suburbs of Beirut and the hills to the south-east, and salping the same militia at the multi-national force contribute to a greater sense of insecurity than at any time in the past.

Israel of course is not a disinterested bystander in all this, and is now better able to call the tune, considering that it has mended its fences with the United States. What Israel started in Lebanon last year in ousting the PLO from Beirut is now being completed by Syria in Tripoli. For some time, Israel has been trying to prise the West Bank and Gaza Strip out of the PLO grip. With the pro-Arafat wing based in Tunis and the dissident one in Damascus, the PLO as a body would lose much of its hold on the Palestinians at large, and make for more inter-factional dissension and possibly for a more facile Palestinian entity on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

By David H. Porter

## Middle East violence on the upswing

By Ya'coub Jaber

THE MIDDLE East has entered the already-predicted phase of extreme violence, which this time could be more devastating than ever before in terms of human losses and the areas it covers. The spectre of desperate attacks and retaliatory assaults is now becoming real and more appalling with each day that passes.

Some people in the region appear to feel that they are being left with no option but to strike at random to air their grievances and mounting frustration.

To begin with, the explosion on an Israeli bus in occupied Jerusalem last week signals a significant shift in the tactics of the Palestinian resistance in the occupied territory. The attack on the bus was followed next day by the cold-blooded killing of an 11-year-old Arab girl in the West Bank city of Nablus. Four other people, including the dead girl's nine-year-old sister, were wounded in the attack which was undoubtedly a reprisal carried out by Jewish settlers who have been armed by their government and left loose carrying the law in their own hands.

The more dangerous and alarming eruption of violence occurred in Kuwait when six explosions went off at selected targets, including the US and French embassies. The Kuwaiti blasts indicate that the whole Middle East could be the theatre of the new cycle of violence.

President Reagan last week said there were about 1,000 Iranians in Lebanon ready to launch suicide attacks such as the ones which were carried out against the Marines and French troop headquarters in Beirut last October. In addition to the Iranians, the Lebanese Shi'ites are said to be turning extremists in the face of intolerable Israeli oppression in South Lebanon.

It does not take much thought to deduce that these are ominous signs which call for utmost caution and, above all, a reappraisal of policies by those who have contributed to the creation of the present complications in the Middle East.

Perhaps some people should be reminded that in the wake of the ruthless Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the terrible massacres which accompanied it, many warned that unless real progress was made towards a just peace settlement, extremism would prevail and more senseless violence could become inevitable.

Those predictions are becoming a reality now. In the absence of any tangible movement towards the long-promised peace that would satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinians and end the Israeli occupation of Lebanon, the region has been made a suitable ground for the growth of extremism and intervention by certain elements who seek to settle scores with this party or that.

There is no need to point to the parties responsible for this rapid deterioration of the situation; since everybody now knows where the responsibility lies. Yet it is becoming obvious that the deterioration and the upsurge of violence are having adverse effects on the interests of certain powers. These powers are capable of doing something, but refrain from doing it due to erroneous military and political calculations.

The current situation in the Middle East poses the main danger to world peace. If this is not an incentive for wise action and reappraisal of policies, what else can be?

Al-Ahram newspaper of Egypt this week criticises the US-Israeli strategic alliance, saying that under it, America has offered Israel concessions that have never been offered to any country since the Second World War. It says the strategic co-operation accords are surprising because Israel gave President Reagan's Middle East peace plan an outright and absolute rejection and thus prevented Washington from becoming a full partner in the process of establishing peace in the Middle East.

A Saudi newspaper, Al-Jazira, calls on the United States to see reason and wisdom in its dealings with the Palestinian question, which is the core of the dispute in the Middle East. It notes that the United States is a superpower with heavy responsibilities towards international peace and security, and towards the source of all Middle East troubles — namely, the Palestinian problem.

The Qatari newspaper Al-Raya expresses the hope that the United States would take action to push the peace process in the Middle East forward.

"We hope that in the next few weeks, President Reagan will prove the credibility of his recent remarks about US commitment to seeking peace in the region. Washington can do that by an initiative designed to bring about national reconciliation in Lebanon and at the same time establish just peace in the whole region," writes Al-Raya.

It suggests that Washington's first step should be to begin a dialogue with Syria, to ease the tension in preparation for serious negotiations about the feasible basis for a realistic, just and acceptable settlement.

Al-Bayaa published in Dubai, notes that there was consensus at the Islamic foreign ministers' conference in Dacca on condemning the US-Israeli strategic alliance as a serious threat to the region's peace and stability.

The paper goes on to say that condemnation of the alliance is not enough to confront its dangers, because what is really needed is a united Arab front after eliminating all differences among Arab states to cope with this serious development in US policy.

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Rai Al-Aam writes that the United States cannot turn Syria into an isolated island like Cuba. It adds that the Arabs may differ with Syria on many questions, but that they stand at its side in confronting the consequences of the US-Israeli alliance.

The Kuwaiti paper also says that the massive US weapons supply in Israel is the natural reason for the Arabs search for modern armament from any source, with a view to defending themselves against the Israeli aggression.

Another Kuwaiti paper, Al-Qabas, warns that Lebanon, in its geographic and social nature, resembles Vietnam more than Grenada. It says the United States and Israel could face a costly guerrilla war in Lebanon if they persist in their aggressive policies and fail to learn from the lessons of history.

Israel has dragged the United States into a debacle in Lebanon when Washington had the power to solve the problem through political means," the paper also says.

On the departure of Chairman Yasser Arafat's forces from Tripoli and the Israeli naval raids on them early this week, the English-language Qatari Gulf Times demands international protection for the Palestinian fighters, because one cannot trust the Zionist enemy or its promises. It also says that the Israeli raids on Tripoli show beyond any doubt that Israel does not differentiate between the rebels or Mr. Arafat's supporters.

Al-Akhbar in Egypt says that Mr. Arafat's departure from Tripoli will not end his role as the political leader of the PLO. It says that Mr. Arafat had to decide in favour of leaving Tripoli to protect his men from both Israel and the Syrian-backed dissidents who unconsciously flung themselves now in the same trench with Israel.

"Under all circumstances and against any odds, Mr. Arafat will remain the



spokesman of Palestine and the Palestinians," asserts the Cairo paper.

### Jordanian press

Ad-Dustur newspaper in Amman writes that His Majesty King Hussein, in his remarks to the AHC network, has tossed the ball back into the US and Israeli court by pointing to the tremendous obstacles placed by Israel on the road to peace. It refers to the King's remark that Jordan's endeavour to achieve peace on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 242 has always been met with Israeli intransigence and total rejection of all peace efforts, including President Reagan's Middle East peace plan.

"As the King said on the ABC programme, the Israeli intransigence and America's retreat from its commitments towards peace, have placed new obstacles before a political settlement. The latest of these is the strategic alliance between the United States and Israel, which has created a new threat in the area and pushed it towards increased polarization," writes Ad-Dustur.

It concludes by asserting that when Israel rejects peace efforts, and when the United States allies itself with a belligerent state such as Israel, then calls for making peace should be directed to Israel and not to Jordan, which has done all it could to reach peace on the basis of Resolution 242.

### Israeli press

In Israel Al-Hamishmar comments on Defence Minister Moshe Arens' "urgent mission" upon his return from Washington: to evict Cush Emunim settlers from Joseph's Tomb and the Nablus area. The acting defence minister had told the settlers that their presence there was illegal and that they would be evicted by force; but nothing was done.

The settlers replied that they would not return to their residences until the government accepted their demands, which stipulated the expulsion of Arabs and authorisation for settlers to fire at those who threw stones at them.

"The encouragement of settlement in Nablus is meant to escalate clashes between Arabs and Jews; thus the minister of defence must prevent any further deterioration," the paper writes.

Haolam Hazeh, on the same topic, says there is no room for settlement — in Joseph's tomb, Ibrahim mountain or any other spot populated by Arabs. Settlement there would lead to Arab unrest, after which the settlers will ask for troops, the paper writes.

"The settlers are trying to impose a change of the law on the government, and they threaten that they will have to implement their own law if the government does not respond to their demands."

"It is likely that settlers are trying to speed up the annexation of the occupied territories," Haolam Hazeh comments.

Kol Ha'Ir, on the discussion between the Histadrut labour federation and employers, says it is quite important to reach a decision as quickly as possible and to issue advance pay rises immediately rather than waiting time in the method of calculation.

Noting that the living allowances will not be paid before the end of December, the paper says inflation is 20 per cent a month — hence the three-week delay will result in decreasing the actual wage by 12 per cent. On this basis, the cost of living increase will fade to nothing.

"We know that a great majority of workers receive about \$1,000 at the end of every month; this is below the acceptable minimum in the civilized countries. Astonishingly, old-age allowances equal \$60 a month at a time when the electric bill comes to \$25 a month."

"This is a fast deterioration towards poverty, but still we have not felt its sting," Kol Ha'Ir writes.

Port Authority leaders claim that negotiations with workers will be through within a few days. Haamodia notes, But under the present circumstances the bonus is calculated without pension; thus the retired workers will only receive meagre payments that cannot secure the minimum of the cost of living, it says.

The dispute remains unresolved despite the fact that workers have resumed work, Haamodia says.

Davar newspaper writes that the basic problem is the balance of payments. In exports and imports there seems to be no positive development despite all measures taken last October that achieved an inflation rate of 200 per annum. In short, the outcome of those measures was "additional injustice in the social balance and a turmoil in labour relations."

The new finance minister has not succeeded in stopping further deterioration. "We must take immediate measures to encourage exports but to avoid further inflation," Davar urges.

On American-Israeli strategic links, Haaretz says it is hard to believe that the US and the Israeli air forces have been operating separately in Lebanon. "Can we simply accept the official statements saying that the two raids were in retaliation for two separate events? Do the US and Israel plan to back up Gemayel by putting pressure on Syria?" Haaretz urges the government to clarify the situation because Premier Shamir's statements have not removed doubts.

Maariv says it is "quite sad from all points of view to see Israel engage in war to defend US interests. Does this mean we have to oppose the idea of political and strategic co-ordination?"

Co-ordination has always been a big issue for both the Likud bloc and the opposition alignment, the paper notes; but Soviet involvement in the region has added weight to this issue.

Moniteu writes that the US tried to bring Syria to negotiations in an attempt to work out a political settlement in Lebanon, but Syria did not express any desire to cede its influence over Lebanon. Therefore, Washington had to resort to force and chose this time due to the deterioration of the health of the Soviet and Syrian presidents.

"We are not in a position to offer advice to President Reagan. Israel committed itself to leaving Lebanon a long time ago and Israel must not involve itself in Reagan's adventures," Moniteu advises.

Kotercel Rashit says the welcome offered to Mr. Shamir in Washington will help him overcome internal problems, but he faces demands submitted by the coalition parties, in addition to economic conditions.

The formation of a national unity government is still valid and the idea pops up every now and then. "It is our duty to enunciate the Labour Party against bargaining over basic principles, mainly the future of the West Bank," the Israeli paper says, warning that if it does it will "lose its moral right to exist and will lose many supporters."

### PALESTINE IN BRIEF

#### Refugees oppose plan for resettlement

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Residents in Palestinian refugee camps of Judea and Samaria are forming committees to oppose the refugee rehabilitation programme proposed by Israeli Minister without Portfolio Mordechai Ben-Porat. "They took the camps as what is left out of the Palestinian problem, and if they destroy them the problem will be forgotten," said one refugee interviewed on Israeli Radio. Mr. Ben-Porat insists that his plan to resettle the Palestinians in new housing near where they are now living is a humanitarian proposal.

#### Workers lose jobs

TEL AVIV — Thousands of workers in this city's industrial and service sectors are to lose their jobs in the next few weeks. Most of them have already been given notice. The dismissals have already begun in the textile, fur, leather, transport and insurance industries. Last month some 2,580 workers who lost their jobs were registered at the Ministry of Labour employment bureau and the number is expected to reach 4,000 by the end of this month.

#### Security forces demolish houses

TEL AVIV — Israeli security forces have demolished or sealed the houses of seven Palestinians in the occupied West Bank suspected of anti-Israeli activity, the military command said. The command confirmed news reports that three houses belonging to Palestine Liberation Organization members were demolished in the Hebron area. The three suspects admitted to several attacks on Israelis in the West Bank and will soon be brought to trial before a military court, according to Israeli army radio and other news reports. Security forces tore down three other houses and broke up a fourth — all in the Hebron and Ramallah areas — belonging to Palestinians who confessed to involvement in the July stabbing death of a Jewish seminary student in Hebron, the reports said.

#### Municipal rates to go up

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The City Council has decided to triple municipal rates and other cities are expected to follow suit. At the same time road building in Jerusalem and the project to redesign the western entrance of the city have been slowed down because of lack of funds to pay the contractors, a spokesman for the Council said.

#### Bus explosion condemned

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Six prominent West Bank Arabs have issued a statement condemning last week's bus explosion in Jerusalem which killed five people and injured several others. The six include former mayor of Ramallah Mr. Karim Khalil, poetess Raymonda Tawil and Mr. Anwar Nasseh, a former minister. Israeli Cabinet secretary Dan Meridor said it was the first time West Bank leaders had criticized an action for which the PLO claimed responsibility.



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## The last hope

OBSERVERS EXPECT PLO leader Mr Yasser Arafat and his men to leave the Lebanon city of Tripoli as early as Friday. The same observers say that the United States has given French and Greek authorities what they need to guarantee that Israel will not attack the Palestinian convoy on its way from Lebanon shores. Even Israel gave hints that it shall not come near the departing fighters despite the voices inside Israel that call for such an attack.

The question that drops itself before us all is not the future of the exhausted and outnumbered group of freedom fighters, but the future of the Palestinian struggle as a whole. The last ship leaving the ancient port of Tripoli will not only be carrying the remains of Mr Arafat's men, but those of PLO's military structure on the last land bordering the Zionist entity.

From that point onward the Palestinian armed struggle will be deprived of a base from which to conduct its attacks against its enemies in the occupied territories.

It is equally important to recall that this sad fact was not enforced by the Israelis alone, who have been trying to achieve this goal ever since their occupation of Palestine became a bitter reality, but through the aid of Arab governments who still tell the world that their aspiration is to restore Palestine to its people.

So what comes next? The Arab Summit was postponed during the siege of Tripoli and the Palestinian camps with no justifiable reasons. Today, the future of the Palestinian resistance is at stake and at a dangerous crossroads. It is time the leaders of the Arab world met and examined the gravity of one year of events that changed the political and geopolitical map of this area and presented its people with new facts and factors to deal with.

It has been a sad year for the Arab world. The future does not look any better. If there still remains a hope then it has to be put forward now. The departure of the last Palestinian fighter from Tripoli is in itself a departure of hope from our troubled land.

## Destroying an ideal

IT WOULD BE 'Inconceivable' for Israel to let Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat and his men leave the embattled city of Tripoli safely, says Israeli Deputy Prime Minister David Levy. Practically in the same breath, he turns around and says, "But one must not conclude from this that Israel will attack. My country has not the slightest intention of doing so."

Faced with such a seemingly basic contradiction, we must ask Mr. Levy how Israel plans to prevent the safe departure of the PLO leader — which has been sanctioned by the entire world community, including the United States — if not by attacking. And since Tripoli has already come under heavy bombardment from Israeli gunboats, how can we be prevented from concluding that this is precisely Israel's intention? Apparently Mr. Levy would have us believe that this ship-based attack is in reality some form of defence? Don't laugh — when Israeli troops stormed into Lebanon two summers ago, then-Premier Begin insisted to the end that it was "not an invasion."

The US State Department has backed the PLO men's departure from Tripoli on Greek ships, and has asked its Israeli ally not to interfere. It would be a naive observer, however, who thought that the Americans' wishes would have any influence on their clients, who don't need to listen to anybody because they're sure they have a firm grasp on the right hand of God. The State Department explained its support for the evacuation by saying that it was "consistent with our long-standing policy of seeking a withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon." Israel supposedly agrees with that aim, or at least says it does (although when Israeli troops are concerned, you can take the word "all" in such a statement with a grain of salt).

What Israel seeks is not the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon — certainly not its own — but the total destruction of its opponents' forces. To that end, it is quite happy to let its ships serve as the anvil against which the PLO can be smashed. Israel has realised by now that forcing the PLO to withdraw from its positions — be they in southern Lebanon, Beirut, Bekaa or Tripoli — it achieves very little material gain, and usually does itself substantial political damage. For this reason it is intent on preventing, if at all possible, the departure intact of any of the PLO infrastructure. Above all, it would dearly love to do away with Yasser Arafat — the man who, much more than any ordinary military leader, is a symbol and a prime mover for resistance.

But for the same reasons, the Israelis are unlikely to go to extremes in keeping the PLO leader bottled up. By experience, they know that however much force they use they cannot destroy an ideal.



## Human rights anniversary

By Hammad Al-Haj  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Last Saturday was the 35th anniversary of the issuance of the declaration of human rights. It was adopted on 10 December 1948 as a resolution by the UN General Assembly consisting of 58 member states then. "It is almost a desperate situation because the blame directed, by Amnesty International to 117 countries reveals the torture exercised in these countries against children, women and aged people", said Mr. Ruks Bin Zaid Al-Uzaizi, the representative of Human Rights League in Jordan. In 42 countries, 1609 politicians were assassinated in one year. This situation urges us to name this year "the year of burying the human rights", he added.

About the Arabs and the declaration, Mr. Uzaizi said that, the blame for Arab dissension and division falls primarily on the Arabs. The declaration brings to our memory some of the prophet's words "if some of you witness a wrong doing, he has to correct it with his hands, if not with his tongue and if not with his heart". If our Islamic doctrines were or are in effect, it is of no value to look at other regulations to save the human rights.

On other democratic countries and the respect they have for human rights, Mr. Al-Uzaizi said that, the countries that issued the declaration of human rights bothered only about their people, and ignored this declaration outside their boundaries. Man within democratic societies, lives in dignity. But if the case concerns people who are not belonging to its nations, the country keeps these beliefs away and tortures those deprived people. But, he added, the declaration of human rights did not intend to discriminate because mankind will always be disturbed as long as there is one individual deprived from his human rights.

On the proposed Arab Society of Human Rights, Mr. Uzaizi said that, to find Arabs thinking, is quite nice, but he does not find any significant need for such a society. This society does not differ from the declaration of human rights. For example, he added, the Scandinavian countries mingled the declaration with their institutions and more than that they applied it with their court laws. In addition to that, the Prime Ministry, in Jordan in 1957, recognised this declaration, but there might be some obstacles in the Arab world that made it difficult to use the declaration as other countries did, he pointed out.

Dr. Jamal Al-Sha'ir, National Consultative Council member, told The Star that, some Arab intellectuals, especially those who live outside the Arab world, have been influenced more than necessary by the Western civilization, suggested to form the Arab organisation for Human Rights. Some of them are American Arabs, others work in international organisations related to human rights and the

rest are Egyptian leaders and thinkers. It would be not difficult to think of a common denominator among those and others. But the question remains, how far they can go especially when they meet difficulties. Furthermore, how much such a slogan could be abused or used politically in the presence of inter Arab wars and conflicts? The natural conclusion is this, he said, the priority should be given to return the parliamentary life in the Arab world, in countries parliamentary life was suspended and to strive for the establishment of this life in the countries in which it was never started.

About the declaration of Human rights, Dr. Sha'ir said that, it is now 35 years since the declaration. It is obvious that the endeavour for such implementation in the Arab world, was confronted with many difficulties. It is only necessary to look at the statement said by the representative of the amnesty international in Jordan to reach the conclusion that all these activities are only nominal and without any substance. It is interesting, he said, to mention that this subject was discussed during the seminar while it was time to discuss the crises of Democracy in the Arab world. After the seminar was finished, a provisional Arab League committee, which was established six months ago in Tunisia, invited all participants, observers and journalists to join a meeting for the official announcement of the formation of the Arab Organisation for Human Rights. During the meeting, many ideas were presented. Jordanians, who attended the seminar, thought generally that this step needed more considerations and requested for the postponement of the official announcement of the organisation. The organisation was nevertheless announced on Saturday, which coincided with Human Rights Day.

On the postponement, Dr. Sha'ir said that, some reservations were based on the understanding of the natural growth of such a slogan, and other reservations were touched on the realities of the Arab world. Going back to 35 years ago, he pointed out, one can mention in retrospect two main motives of the declaration of human rights. It is also clear that it was based on many facts, like: the Western Part and the Soviet Union who came out victorious in the last World War came to talk about the idealistic slogans in order to enhance their image in the world, and the parliamentary democratic countries, continued over three centuries to improve the quality of life in these countries. When the Arab intellectuals subscribed to such ideals, it is really a reflection of their inner feelings and convictions that the Arab masses, who are not only deprived of their right in power sharing, but also they are abused by most Arab regimes, he added.

About the resolutions adopted in the seminar, "The Crises of Democracy in the Arab World", held in Cyprus last month, Dr. Sha'ir said that it was one of a number of such seminars organised over the last seven years. There was a consensus that democratic institutions have been collapsing in almost Arab countries over the last 35 years.

Kamel  
Abu  
Jaber



## "The strategic cooperation agreements," Part II

Greetings to Jerusalem!

MR. LAWRENCE Eagleberger, United States Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs spent the first week of November in Israel. As it turned out, he has been negotiating or perhaps re-negotiating the Strategic Cooperation Agreement with Israel once proposed by former US Secretary of State Alexander Haig. In general, the agreement or agreements, later on formally concluded by President Reagan and Prime Minister Shamir, give blanket protection and moral, military, political and economic support to Israel without any substantive gain to the United States in return. The photograph of Mr. Shultz, US Secretary of State, holding an umbrella over the head of Prime Minister Shamir, who is smiling and walking ahead of Mr. Shultz, was a graphic portrayal of the relationship that exists between the two countries.

It would indeed not be our business to consider who holds an umbrella over whom, had its significance stopped at the door step of mere politeness. However, it is our business to worry when that spills over to affect our very life, the destiny of our area and our future. For hardly had that umbrella been unfurled, when significant happenings began to take place. Since then, the Israeli Minister without Portfolio, Mr. Mordechai Ben-Porat "unfurled" an Israeli project to resettle thousands of Palestinians out of their refugee camps in the occupied West Bank to more permanent areas. The move, he said, was motivated by "humanitarian" considerations. General Shimon Peres, head of the West Bank's "civil administration," was more explicit and perhaps a bit more honest when he said that the \$1.5 billion project which is to take six years to execute, would reduce the anti-Israeli protests in the area. He also stated his dislike of international agencies such as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which, he says, constitutes a political obstacle to Israeli "humanitarian" designs.

Since the conclusion of the Eagleberger talks and later the signing of the United States-Israeli alliance, the level of violence has shown a definite upward trend. First, Israeli, then French and later American planes saw fit to attack "enemy" forces in Lebanon. That the "enemy" forces were fighting each other and among themselves hardly mattered. Mr. Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was finally "persuaded" to abandon Tripoli in North Lebanon on fire Greek ships to be escorted by a French flotilla to guarantee his safety and that of his 4000 men. While the Israelis claiming that the Syrians wanted to arrest Mr. Arafat and place him under house arrest, a happening which one would think would please them, they ordered their fleet in the Mediterranean to bombard Tripoli and the PLO positions where they thought Mr. Arafat might be.

Now armed with a formal alliance with the United States, it is more difficult to discern what the Israelis want or do not want. Do they want to pull out of Lebanon? Do they want to see Mr. Arafat dead or alive? Do they want to see a peaceful settlement in the region? Will they attack Syria? Whom will they punish next? Will they adhere to 242? Camp David? Anything? Where will their violence stop?

No one in the Arab world takes seriously the allegation that the strategic agreements were directed against the Soviet Union, nor that they are to increase Israel's sense of security. For if directed against the Soviet Union, they and Israel are not enough, and if directed towards increasing Israel's sense of security, they are too much. Surely an already powerful of Israeli war machine, armed with — nuclear weapons, is not in need of more security. Further, what security are we talking about and who in fact needs security, Israel or the Arabs? In the very recent past Israel violated the territorial integrity and security of almost every country in the region: the West Bank and Gaza, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and its continued refusal to evacuate tiny Taba, violates the integrity of Egypt.

The United States gave everything and with it much from the Arabs with nothing in return. Prime Minister Shamir, ruling over the Israeli empire whose power extends deep into the United States, reiterated once again Israel's refusal of the Reagan initiative and the Reagan request to "freeze" the settlement programme. He came out with everything, smiling, and with Mr. Shultz holding an umbrella over him. Some cynics say that both Mr. Shamir and Mr. Reagan have assured themselves of re-election. Mr. Shamir, yes, Mr. Reagan, perhaps; for now that the Zionists have taken the maximum he can give, they may very well help to elect a fresh candidate.

## The scientific urge

HUMAN PSYCHOLOGY classifies man's needs into primary and secondary needs. Chief among an individual's primary needs are those which spring out of basic drives such as the need for nutritional security, physical security and sexual security best represented in the urge for reproduction and survival of the species. To secure his basic or primary needs, man has found that he needs the help of other individuals, and therefore has grown the social needs of cooperation, of having a shelter and common security, of education and progress to cope with both the individual primary and secondary social needs.

Another peak was the triumph of the European Renaissance (15th to 17th centuries) over the deep trough of the dark Middle Ages given to hair-splitting

By Henry Matar

indulgence in metaphysicality. And still other peaks in modern times have been those of the Industrial Revolution of the 18th-19th centuries, and the post-Second-World War technological revolution. At present, the world is trying to ride over another surge of civilization towards the peak of the nuclear and extraterrestrial age of outer-space, that is, Nobody can predict what comes next, but the ultimate outcome — if humanity survives — shall be another great peak of civilization.

It is this scientific urge that has brought about so many developmental changes in human history. And it is the same scientific urge that draws the demarcation line between backward, non-scientifically minded and reactionary societies on the one hand, and progressive scientifically inspired societies.

In Jordan, there have been a number of attempts to introduce the scientific method and to imbue the scientific urge into the minds of the rising generations. Few, however, have managed to dedicate themselves wholeheartedly and disinterestedly to the cause of science. One of these few, and the most recent on the line, has been the publication of this week of the first whole-scientific weekly paper of "Al-Wassila", best translated into English by the word "means." And truly it is the means towards the end of science service and its popularization.

It is the belief of its editors and consultants that without the dissemination and the popularization

zation of modern science in such a way that it goes into every household and therein reside the supreme inspirer, to the detriment of all ignorance, superstition and illusion, no properly respectable place for Jordan as well as for the whole Arab world can be established in the modern world of ours.

To translate this belief into something like daily bread, the editorial of "Al-Wassila" points out that science is no longer the luxury of the few, whereas these few encircle themselves with a kind of sanctified halo, but has become the common property of the commoners of civilized nations of the world. The "editorial" also warns that while promulgating science, it should not be used to just display imported luxuries and other commodities mainly meant for consumption. True science must change a consumptive society into a productive one.

To help the scientific approach to become the practice of the commoner, the weekly paper, "Al-Wassila", takes the first step of dealing with the history of science as it does in its article, "The Birth of Scientific Thought." From this premise, the paper goes on to implant keen interest in the development of research in various branches of science: agriculture, solar energy, outer space, medicine and future technology. Such research interest is urged in the paper's display of articles about outer space plants, insect-killing potato, heart-relieving aspirin and jobs of the nineties.

Next a good number of the most recent inventions in the world of science and technology, as well as exercises, puzzles and entertainments of a varied scientific nature are being given to the science-lover. Comprehensiveness of the scientific approach is, therefore, one of the salient features of "Al-Wassila", a comprehensiveness which is given on endless dimension in the article on "The Universe as a Whole Entity."

Yet one of the concepts which "Al-Wassila" presents in the editorial, and which may seem strange at the first instance, is the contention that science is not neutral.

## Arab human rights

THE WORLD on Saturday celebrated the International day for human rights proclaimed by the United Nations more than a decade ago. Here in the Arab world, we did not have anything to celebrate.

But this is not all. In 1982, a number of Arab countries met to discuss the Arab version of human rights. Here are some of the main points that were raised and dealt with:

- 1- Objection to the use of the terms Arab nation and Arab world.
- 2- The importance of condemning Zionism and racism.
- 3- Objection to the rights of Arabs to travel freely in the Arab countries.
- 4- Objection to the right of the Arab individual to work since this right is impossible to fulfil.
- 5- Objection to the abolition of the death penalty.
- 6- Disagreement on the subject of executing the Arab individual after the age of 70 and the period during which a pregnant or a nursing mother cannot be executed.
- 7- Rejection of the principle of abolishing execution for political reasons.
- 8- Rejection of the right of political activists to seek refuge in other Arab countries.

These are the fruits of more than 15 years of work under the flag of Arab human rights. No wonder we did not have a reason to celebrate the human rights day last week. The collective efforts of Arab countries to study the declaration of the rights that will preserve human dignity and honour can rightfully be called efforts to guarantee the fulfilment of the Arab individual and his aspirations as human. No words can do our governments justice and how can we even dare to criticise since no one can secure our rights.

This is the crux of the so-called joint Arab action in the field of human rights.



## analysis

# Khazar Jews: A missing link in Israel's history

THANKS TO the submission of Christian authors and leaders to Zionist pressure and manipulation in particular, the Zionist Jews — and most Jews are willingly or unwillingly Zionists — succeeded in establishing a complete historical blackout on many, many facts — a circumstance which did not only distort the history of most nations, but also did popularize certain Jewish myths so as to make them seem as undisputed historical facts.



It is hardly possible to understand and correctly evaluate the history of Russia during the last five generations without a clear and comprehensive knowledge of the origin and history of the Russian and European Jews who should be appropriately called the Khazar Jews.

The story of the political emergence and disappearance from the pages of history of the Khazar Kingdom has been — up to a few decades — one of history's best kept secrets. For many centuries an almost complete blackout had been established, through Jewish influence and Christian submission to conceal from the world the origin and the history of those people and their intimate relationship to the origin and early history of the self-styled Jews of Eastern Europe.

Even today their story is being kept out of all general and specialized history books throughout the world. To illustrate this Jewish historical conspiracy one example would be enough: In his "History of the Jews", the Jew Abram Leon Sa-

tanovsky entered into alliances with them in the hope of converting them to Christianity to avert their menace.

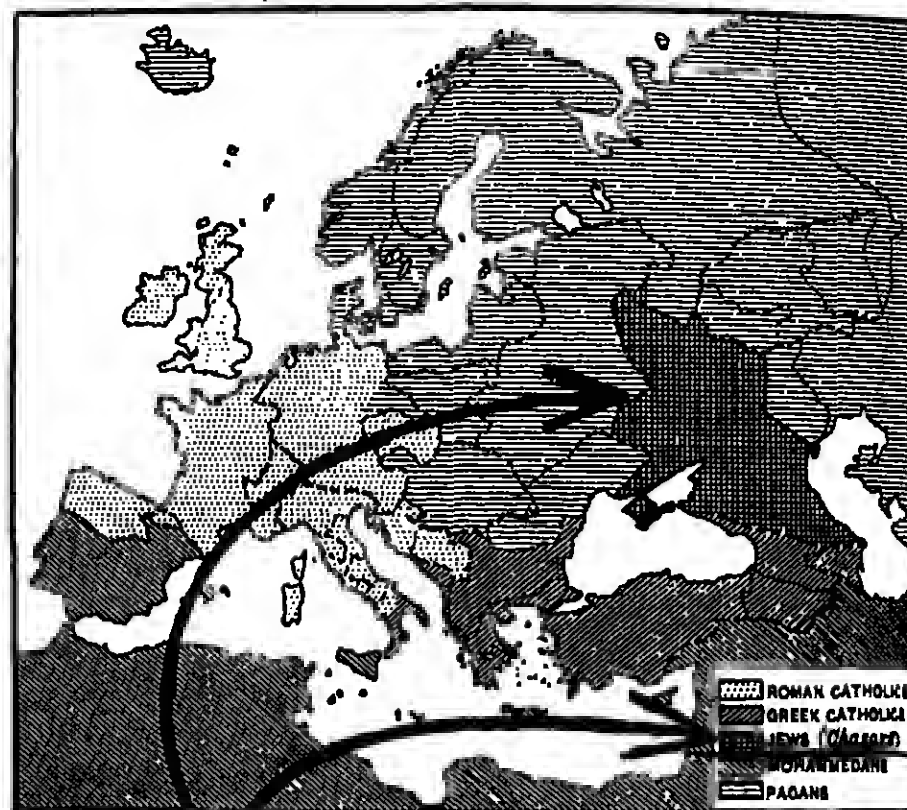
The expansion of the Khazar Empire, however, continued in the ninth and tenth centuries until no less than 25 nations paid tribute to the Khagans who, later, posed as the protectors of the Jewish faith.

The Khazars were pagan whose religion was a mixture of idol and phallic worship. Consequently they indulged themselves in extremely vile sexual excesses and moral degeneracy. In his "History of the Jews", the Jewish historian H. Graetz, states on page 141 that "the Khazars professed a coarse religion, which was combined with sensuality and lewdness".

When the Byzantine emperor dispatched missionaries to convert the Khazars, the Jews who mingled with them in the Crimea, forestalled the Christians and Muslims and succeeded about the year 740 in converting the Khagan, his nobles (4,000 of them) and his people to Talmudic Judaism during the reign of King Bulan II. Many Rabbis were invited to come to the Khazar Kingdom to circumcise the whole population, to open Synagogues and schools and to instruct the people in the new forms of religious worship. After this mass conversion Judaism became the state religion and the kingdom was transformed into a virtual theocracy with the definite proviso that only a Jew could occupy the Khazar throne.

This is how the Talmud entered into Russia and a conquering Finnish-Turkish-mongolian savage horde, whose ancestors never saw nor heard of Palestine, became Hebrew, part and parcel of God's chosen people myth! And this is also how it was that Russia acquired its Jew, who when they emigrated during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to Western Europe and the United States, were known as Russian Jews passing as the direct descendants of Abraham!

On pages 1 to 5 of Volume IV, the Jewish Encyclopedia, which refers to them as "Chazars", describes them as "a people of Turkish origin whose life and history are interwoven with the very beginnings of the history of the Jews of Russia... They were driven on by the nomadic tribes of the steppes and by their own desire for plunder and revenge... In the second half of the sixth century the Chazars moved westward... and their kingdom was finally established in most of south Russia long before the foundation of the Russian monarchy by the Varangians in the year 855... At this time at the height of its power and was constantly at war... At the end of the eighth century... the Khagan and his grandees, together with a large number of his heathen people, embraced the Jewish religion... About the ninth century, it appears as if all the Chazars were Jews and that they had been converted to Judaism only a short time before. It was one of the successors of Bulan named Obadiah who regenerated the Kingdom and strengthened the Jewish religion. He invited Jewish scholars to settle in his dominions, and founded synagogues and schools. The people were instructed in the Bible, Mishnah and the Talmud, and in the divine service of the hazzanin... In their writings the Khazars used the Hebrew letters... King Joseph (the last Khazar King) ascended the throne in accordance with the law of the Chazars relating to succession... (he) had twenty five wives, all of royal blood, and sixty concubines, all famous beauties. Each one slept in a separate tent and was watched by a eunuch... This seems to have been the beginning of the downfall of the Chazar Kingdom... The Russian Varangians established themselves at Kiev, (and) after a hard fight (they) conquered the Khazarian royal family emigrated to Spain... Some went to Hungary, but the great mass of the people remained in their native country... The shrinking of the Khazar empire started in 966 when the Russian prince, led by prince Sviatoslav of Kiev, launched their first attack to throw off the oppressive yoke of the Khazar Jews. Though in 969 the Slavonian armies captured and destroyed Kiev, their capital, it was not until 1,016 that they succeeded in overcoming all Khazar resistance particularly in



Map showing the distribution of Religions in Europe in the Tenth Century, C.E.

the Crimea where they had established themselves subsequent to the capture of Kiev, their capital and stronghold.

The destruction of the Jewish Khazar Kingdom by the Russians explains three extremely important facts: the presence of most of the Jews in Eastern Europe who later emigrated to the Americas and particularly to the United States; the deep rooted hatred that the Jews felt and still feel for the Russian people; and the rape of Palestine, achieved through the help of United States and Great Britain, to provide the Khazar descendants with a homeland from which political Zionism and Communism could launch their subversive campaigns for the destruction of Christianity — and later Islam — and for the ultimate control of the world.

In 1979 Mr. Arthur Koestler, a Khazar Jew from Hungary, published a book called "The Thirteenth Tribe" in which he traces the history of the ancient Khazar Empire. From this book emerge certain illuminating facts.

1. After the destruction of the Khazar Empire, Khazar tribes and communities migrated into Hungary, Poland, Lithuania, the Ukraine and northern Russia, where the greatest concentrations of Jews were found at the dawn of the Modern Age. This hypothesis concerning the Khazar origins of Jewry was at long proposed and defended by Professor Poliak of the Tel Aviv University in his book "Khazaria" which went through a second edition in 1951.

In his introduction Professor Poliak writes that the facts demand "a new approach, both to the problem of the relations between the Khazar Jewry and other Jewish communities, and the question of how far we can go in regarding this Khazar Jewry as the nucleus of the large Jewish settlements in Eastern Europe... The descendants of these settlements — that is, those who stayed where they were, those who emigrated to the United States and to other countries and those who went to Israel — constitute now the large majority of world Jewry."

This means that the ancestors of the large majority of world Jewry come not from the Jordan but from the Volga, not from Canaan but from the Caucasus; and that genetically they are more closely related to the Hun, Uigur and Magyar tribes than to the seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Should this theory be confirmed, the term "anti-Semitism" would become meaningless because it is based on a misapprehension shared by both the Gentiles and the Jews themselves.

2. Although ethnically, the Semitic tribes on the waters of the Jordan and the Turkic-Khazar tribes on the Volga were kilometers apart, they had two important factors in common: wanderlust and ghetto mentality. Each lived at a focal function where the great trade routes connecting

east and west, north and south intersect, a circumstance which predisposed them to become nations of traders, of enterprising travellers, or rootless cosmopolitans. But at the same time their religion fostered a tendency to keep to themselves and stick together, to establish their own communities with their own places of worship, schools, residential quarters and ghettos in whatever town or country they settled. In other words, the Jews themselves created the ghettos and imposed them upon themselves.

3. The evidence from anthropology concurs with history in refuting the popular belief in a Jewish race descended from the biblical tribes. There are two groups of facts that militate against this belief: the wide diversity of Jews with regard to physical characteristics, and the similarity to the Gentile population amidst whom they live. The obvious biological explanation for both phenomena is miscegenation (interbreeding of races) which took different forms in different historical situations: intermarriage, large scale proselytizing, legalized or tolerated rape as a constant accompaniment of war and pogrom.

4. In appendix IV Mr. Koestler bases the right of the State of Israel to exist not on the hypothetical origins of the Jewish people, nor on the mythological covenant of Abraham with God, but on international law, i.e., on the United Nations' decision in 1947 to partition Palestine into an Arab and a Jewish State. Mr. Koestler continues by saying, "whatever the Israeli citizens' racial origins, and whatever illusions they entertain about them, their state exists de jure and de facto and cannot be undone, except by genocide. Without entering into controversial issues, one may add, as a matter of historical fact, that the partition of Palestine was the result of a century of peaceful Jewish immigration and pioneering effort, which provide the ethical justification for the state's legal existence."

I agree with Mr. Koestler as to the hypothetical origins of the Jewish people and the mythological covenant of Abraham with God. I agree that Israel exists de facto but not de jure since legally the United Nations had no right to partition the country entrusted to its care against the wishes of the large majority of its rightful owners and since the Arabs still do not recognize its de jure existence. As to the peaceful Jewish immigration to Palestine it cannot be an ethical justification for Israel's legal existence because it was done by stealth and deceit and above all it was not peaceful because the Palestinian Arabs strongly resisted and opposed it since its inception in the 1880's.

The writer is a well-known historian and researcher. He served as Jordan's ambassador to a number of South American countries.

By Nicola J. Kattan

char, once President of Brandels had this remark about his ancestors, the Khazars. In a large volume of 447 pages, he says, on page 223: "In the eighth century a whole Tartar Kingdom, the Khazars, in south Russia, had been converted in Judaism, and maintained an independent and successful existence for more than two centuries, until it fell in 969, before Sviatoslav, the Duke of Kiev."

The Khazars — an Asiatic Mongoloid nation — classified by modern anthropologists as a non-Semitic Turkish-Finish race — invaded Eastern Europe from their home-land in the heart of Asia about the first century of the Christian era, via the land route that lies between the northern tip of the Caspian Sea and the Southern end of the Ural Mountains. From the Caucasus region these war — like Khazar tribes constantly raided the border provinces of the Persian Empire, often acting as tools of the Byzantine Empire, Persia's rival.

The Arab conquests of the seventh century ended the consequent establishment of the Arab-Islamic Empire, checked the Khazar expansion eastward and southward and turned it westward and northward into the vast expanses of Russia. Boag, savage and ruthless, the Khazars experienced little difficulty in conquering and subjugating nations that occupied two million and a half square kilometres of central and south eastern Russia. And the kingdom they established — as a result of these conquests — became the largest, the most powerful and probably the wealthiest in Europe at that time.

From their capital, Kiev, which the Arabs called al-Bayda (the White City), situated at the mouth of the Volga, near the present city of Astrakhan, the Khazars, according to Doubnow's "History of the Jews in Russia and Poland", Vol. I, page 19, "constantly raided the Slavonian tribes far and near, to the very gates of Kiev, forcing them to become their tributaries". From Crimea, the other Khazar centre, the Khagans (Kings) pressed westward toward Constantinople and the Balkan Peninsula until they threatened the existence of the Byzantine Empire. To appease their rapacious greed and check their unabridled energy, the emperors paid the Khagans a yearly tribute and simul-

Does the  
Arms Race  
Scare You?



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## Letter from Paris

# Ah, Paris in the fall! It's the perfect time to...pay your taxes!



By Jacqueline Grapin  
Associate Editor

What the Parisians call "The Fall of the Autumn Leaves" has nothing to do with nature or with the chestnut trees—which, as a matter of fact, hardly subsist in this concrete-covered city. It has to do with the seasonal activity of the fiscal administration, which makes tax forms fall on all the desks.

Each year, it is the season of laments—France grumbles, and Paris, which does everything better than the rest of the world, grumbles even more. One must admit that, this year, the bill is stiff. Government officials had to find an additional 40 billion French francs (US\$5.2 billion) for the budget of the state and of the Social Security Administration.



tion. Fiscal levies represent 45 percent of the national wealth, and may reach more than 70 percent in the higher tax brackets.

The Socialist administration that was elected in May 1981 made economic error after economic error until the latter part of 1982, and now the French are suffering from the effects of the "tight belt" policies of the finance minister, Jacques Delors, and of his excessive generosity during the first months of the Socialist administration, particularly the costly nationalizations and the ill-timed social measures in a period of deep economic depression.

Paradoxically, the general dissatisfaction does not mean that all the results are bad. Even though the debt of the nation is certainly higher now than two years ago, the rate of inflation has been brought down from 9.7 to 8 percent during the last 12 months. The new rate is rather impressive if one considers that inflation ran at 15 percent a few years ago without worrying the then-conservative government.

The foreign trade deficit is now below 60 billion francs, compared to 92 billion a year ago. For 1984, the objective is to bring it down to just 15 billion. It is true that such results have been made possible only with a slowing down of the economy which caused many companies, unable to meet both an increase of their expenses and a decrease of their income, to go bankrupt. But some other companies are flourishing, especially those that have benefited from the inopportune increase of consumer demand in 1982.

Still, 7600 jobs have been scheduled for elimination at the Peugeot-Talbot plants, 7000 in the telephone industry, 4500 at Dunlop-France, 2000 in the Elf-Aquitaine petroleum concern and a few thousand more at Creusot-Loire, a former rival of Westinghouse in the nuclear field. How times have changed!

In spite of all this, little has changed in the everyday life of Parisians. However expensive, restaurants are full. At the opera, where seats may cost 500 francs (US\$65) or more, reservations must be made way ahead of time.

Whoever comes back to Paris after a decade away is overwhelmed by the majestic changes that have taken place during that time—such as the skyscraper complex at "La Defense," which towers over the Avenue Charles de Gaulle where, 20 years ago, there were only slums. And, in the heart of Paris, the "Forum des Halles" attracts thousands of young people everyday in a futuristic site close to City Hall, home of Jacques Chirac, mayor of Paris and leader of the rightist opposition.

At the last municipal elections, Chirac succeeded in obtaining an absolute majority of votes in all 20 "arrondissements." Every Sunday, he delights in taking note of all the election defeats of Socialists and Communists in various cities where they used to be strong.

Thus Paris, capital of Socialist France, has become the most powerful base of the conservative movement. This situation does not seem to bother the Parisians, who are accustomed to power fluctuations.

# The looming nuclear threat

THE danger of nuclear war seems greater today than for many years past, while the willingness of the superpowers to seek accommodation seems weaker. In 1983 we have seen the growing readiness of both the United States and the Soviet Union to use military force, either directly or through allies, in Asia, the Middle East, Central America and the Caribbean. To a great extent, but not entirely, other peoples and other governments can only be onlookers.

Millions of people in Europe and North America, feeling directly threatened by the possibility of nuclear war, have been demonstrating against the nuclear arms race this year. One may agree or disagree with the particular policies they advocate, but they have helped to put the issue of peace or war at the top of the political agenda in many countries.

Many people outside North America and Europe feel remote from the threat of nuclear war—remote and powerless. And until recently,

scientific studies have suggested that the Southern Hemisphere would suffer relatively minor consequences from a nuclear exchange by the superpowers. International studies presented in November at a Washington conference on "The World After Nuclear War," however, predict long-term climate changes that would not be limited to the Northern Hemisphere. Nuclear blasts, the studies concluded, would create enormous differences in temperature between south and north, shifting normal wind patterns and carrying "massive injections" of smoke and radioactivity southward.

So while 1983 has been a year of rising fear, with the climax perhaps still to come with the deployment of a new generation of weapons, it has also been a year in which the threat of war came to the forefront of consciousness and political debate in many countries. Still, as the articles that follow show, people have widely varying perceptions about how that threat affects their own lives.

I saw a book about Hiroshima and Nagasaki and saw the destruction there. There were illustrations in the book and I particularly noticed a picture of a baby, a child, all his skin was burned and radiated and I felt very uncomfortable.

12-year-old Soviet girl

clear if nuclear weapons are available. And the horrifying prospect of nuclearization of Europe is alarming not only as a military threat but also for the obvious impact it would have on the whole range of East-West exchanges that accompanied détente during the seventies.

Theoretically, the communist governments have upheld the principle of peaceful coexistence, arguing that the historical controversy between capitalism and socialism should not be resolved by force of arms. In practice, however, both military pacts—NATO and the Warsaw Treaty—have kept the arms race on an ascending line invoking the mutual distrust inherited from the cold war, and arguing each time that the other side has tipped the military balance in its favor.

Military and political analysts in Eastern Europe emphasize these days that the new generation of medium-range missiles entails the possibility of early nuclear destruction coming from the European theater itself. What NATO calls mere restoration of the theater deterrent is viewed in Moscow as a US stratagem to gain a decisive military advantage in overall strategic terms.

The Soviet SS-20 missiles could reach Western Europe but not the US, whereas Pershing II deployed in Western Europe could destroy essential targets in the USSR with higher accuracy and very little warning. And here the ability to detect and respond quickly to nuclear attack becomes crucial. Under such conditions, the incentive for a first strike will grow immensely, not to mention the increasing danger of a false alarm activating nuclear retaliation without giving time to discover the error.

People in Eastern Europe fear that such a hot military climate would mar political relations with Western Europe to such an extent that trade and human exchanges would become almost impossible. The Iron Curtain would be restored and a state of siege would preside over the political climate in Europe. With NATO measures and Warsaw Treaty countermeasures, just imagine what the relations between the two German states would look like if both territories held nuclear missiles that could destroy the other side in less than five minutes.

This is why East European nations demand instead a course of action that would eventually lead to the elimination of all nuclear weapons in Europe. Romania has reiterated time and again that a military balance in Europe must be realized at a lower level rather than at a higher one, which would trigger a new stage of the insane nuclear race.

Silviu Brucan, former Romanian ambassador to the UN, is past editor of the national newspaper Scinteia.

## Commentary

# A 'horrifying prospect' East Europeans fear that human exchanges would become impossible

By Silviu Brucan  
Associate Editor in Eastern Europe

BUCHAREST—The nuclearization of Europe is perceived here as the most pernicious effect of the worsening East-West relations in the 1980s, which has brought the focus of international conflict back from the Third World to the "old continent." And, of course, the West Germans

and Italians do not feel any happier than the East Germans and Czechs with the deployment of nuclear missiles on their soil.

The stakes in Europe are very high. Though no longer predominant in world affairs as in past centuries, Europe's economic potential surpasses that of any other continent. With only one-fifth of the world's population, Europe produces

roughly 47 percent of the world's income, almost 55 percent of its industrial goods and accounts for 54 percent of world exports.

It was in Western Europe that capitalism originated and subsequently became the core of its worldwide expansion, and it was in Eastern Europe that the Russian Revolution made the first crack in the world capitalist system. Therefore, some observers hold, it is here that the issue of "where the world is going" will be decided. Small wonder that Europe is the only continent where the postwar bipolar structure of power with the US and USSR as protagonists has been stubbornly preserved.

Precisely because of the high stakes in Europe, communists in the East feel that a military conflict here would turn nu-



In October, 300,000 demonstrators took to the streets in Stuttgart, West Germany, to protest the planned deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe.



Commentary

# Eastern arguments 'don't fool anyone'

Only the protection of nuclear weapons can prevent a conflict

By Jacqueline Grapin  
Associate Editor in Western Europe

GENEVA—It can only be suspect to propose "freeing Europe from nuclear weapons" when one is a member of the Warsaw Pact. Soviet arguments in response to American arguments, and those of East European countries such as Romania which want to "mediate" between the superpowers, do not fool anyone. This is especially so when we know that the military imbalance for conventional weapons in Europe is such that only the protection of nuclear weapons can prevent a conflict that the Western Europeans would be likely to lose.

And it is impossible for the leaders of Eastern Europe since there is not one but two Europes: the one that votes and the one that does not.

In order to understand the Euromissile debate and the "non-negotiations" taking place in Geneva, some simple facts must be stated.

•So far, the bottle in essence has been over information and misinformation, and the stakes are less military than political: the control of West European public opinion.

•In the Soviet vocabulary, the word "disarmament" has a very special meaning

and function: it is used to justify the military buildup that the Soviet leaders think is needed.

•The denuclearization of Europe has been the objective of the Soviet Union ever since the beginning of the atomic era.

•American administrations consistently have opposed the separation of the defense systems of the US and Western Europe. That is because such a situation undoubtedly would lead to a neutralization of Western Europe and probably to the fact of control of the region by the Soviet Union because of its geographic proximity and the influence of communist parties in such countries as France and Italy.

•The main objective of the deployment of the Pershing II missiles in West Germany and the cruise missiles in Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and West Germany is precisely to automatically couple

their action with that of the United States in case of conflict caused by the Soviet Union. If such coupling had not been the objective, it would have been technically easier and politically less delicate to base the missiles on submarines.

•For the last two years, the United States and the Soviet Union have tried to influence public opinion in Western Europe. Seen in that context, the successive proposals of Reagan and Andropov aimed at "more flexibility" in the talks in Geneva must be considered as trial balloons with no influence whatsoever on the substance of the discussions. The missiles will be installed, and nothing else will happen. As a former French minister of Foreign Affairs, Michel Jobert, said: "The Russians are certainly not going to start a nuclear war in order to protest against the deployment of the Pershings."

The real negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union will therefore only start in 1984 after it has been clearly established that it is not up to the USSR to unilaterally decide the type and quantity of armaments that must be deployed in Europe. It is only during this second phase that the technician-diplomats will seriously start talking in Geneva. Up to now, the action has mainly been in front of television cameras in Western Europe and the US, in the West German voting booths and on the pacifists' fields of honor.

It is very possible that the negotiations will be successful since the United States and the Soviet Union—for different reasons—both want the race for military balance or supremacy to be regulated as economically as possible and want military equipment to be standardized as much as possible to avoid the risks that would occur should entire sectors of the military arsenal become obsolete. In the meantime, everything else, except for the actual deployment of the missiles, is inconsequential.

West Europeans often criticize Americans for frequently changing their minds. But we must admit that the opposite is also true. Just before the South Korean airliner was shot down by Soviet fighter planes last September, a public opinion poll showed that 61 percent of West Germans opposed the deployment of the Pershings in their country. A week later, the same polling organization found that 58 percent of West Germans suddenly favored this deployment.

All the evidence shows that the more the danger grows, the more the Europeans are ready to accept the cost and inconvenience of nuclear protection. In other words, they then agree with US policies. And all the polls show that, except for the Euromissile question, two-thirds of the West Europeans (and three-fourths of the West Germans) trust American protection and even want it.

It is essential that the United States not make a mistake in evaluating either the Soviet capacity for accepting new moves or its reaction to them. And it must remember that Russia has twice been invaded as far as Moscow, which makes it more sensitive to military threats.

To conclude, Americans and Soviets are the only players, since the Europeans, whether they like it or not, are condemned to accept their decisions. The Euromissiles will be deployed in Europe. The negotiations will be resumed and will allow some agreement, in Geneva or somewhere else, in the form of a SALT III accord. There will have been a lot of noise, and very little change.

Jacqueline Grapin is a columnist for Le Monde and managing director of Intervia SA, a Swiss publishing group.

## carrier' strong enough to stop the Soviet Union Military takes new role in Japan

By Yoshiko Sakurai  
Associate Editor in Northeast Asia

TOKYO—In 1968, the arrival of the American aircraft carrier Enterprise, the world's first nuclear carrier, at the United States naval base in the southern Japanese port city of Sasebo triggered massive public protests in all of Japan's 46 prefectures. More than 1000 people were injured or arrested in the demonstrations.

Today, with the arrival of the carrier Carl Vinson, described in the local press as the "most advanced and powerful nuclear carrier of mankind," people rush to take eight-day tours aboard the flat-top. Fifteen years ago, the Japanese people were afraid that the Enterprise carried nuclear weapons and that its entry to Japanese ports would make Japan an American nuclear base. But now the fear has subsided to a level where the government confidently ignores any protest.

Even as recently as 1981, a statement by former US ambassador to Japan Edwin Reischauer to the effect that it was common sense for American ships to be loaded with nuclear arms, even when passing through Japanese waters or stopping at her ports, raised a furor.

The recent ascendancy of the hawkish Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has

speeded public acceptance of the presence of American nuclear ships in Japan.

In his first state visit to the United States, Nakasone described Japan as "an unsinkable aircraft carrier." This caused a great deal of protest in Japan, though some experts suggested that Nakasone may have been displaying a pro-American attitude simply to tone down US irritation over trade issues.

Most recently, for the first time in post-war history, a Diet debate on defense took place between the prime minister and the chairman of the largest opposition party, the Japan Socialist Party. During that two-hour exchange, Nakasone insisted that Japan's security could be maintained only through a balance of military power. The opposition leader, Masashi Ishibashi, responded by saying that Japan could only be protected by a neutral foreign policy accompanied by a firm resolve not to rearm.

The mass circulation daily papers evaluated both arguments and decided that the prime minister had made a stronger case.

Changes on the international scene in the 1970s and 1980s also have had a lot to do with Japan's changing perceptions. Of particular importance was the rapid growth of Soviet military power, and the

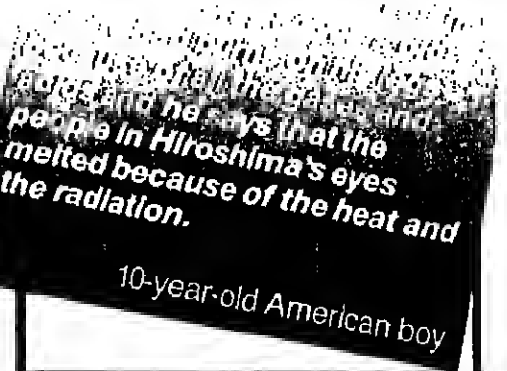
dispute in America and other parts of Western Europe and Japan. "America used to be the policeman and banker of the world," says Atsuyuki Sassa, chief secretary of the Self-Defense Forces. "Since the late 1970s, however, America began asking Western Europe and Japan to become deputy policemen and bankers. In the case of Japan, Mr. Nakasone has enlisted."

The highest lift for the ruling party came with the Soviet downing of the South Korean commercial airliner with 269 people aboard in September. Sassa calls this "decisively a big turning point" in Japan's perceptions on defense. According to Sassa, "The KAL tragedy had improved the Self-Defense Force's reputation from being 'illegitimate' to 'excellent' in monitoring communications between Soviet pilots and their home base. People now know the SDF is not a mere waste of tax."

In the coming year, budgetary allocations for defense are to be increased while all other ministries will suffer a uniform 10 percent cut. If spending continues at the current pace, the government pledge made in the Diet to keep the defense budget below 1 percent of the gross national product will be broken in the near future.

Not only that, says Tokyo University Professor Seizaburo Sato, an adviser to the prime minister, the defense spending will eventually be lifted to 2 percent, though he adds that this may take as long as 20 years.

"But it is ridiculous to say, based on this, that Japan will become a military



people in Hiroshima's eyes melted because of the heat and the radiation.

power," he says. "The only aim on the part of Japan is to build a deterrent force strong enough to stop the Soviet Union, the only country that might attack."

Japan's defense arguments have been like those of a spoiled child—that Japan wants to be protected by America's nuclear umbrella but does not want American military ships to be loaded with nuclear weapons when entering Japanese waters.

Changes in public perceptions on defense issues indicate that the Japanese public has finally started "growing up," Sato concludes. What worries the Japanese is that the government has always successfully controlled public opinion by using double standards, as in the case of the nuclear aircraft carriers. Fear about government intentions appear vague, but in fact run deep. The Japanese people feel they are in the middle of a big change from a small military power to a force of considerable strength.

Yoshiko Sakurai co-anchors a news program on Nippon Television.

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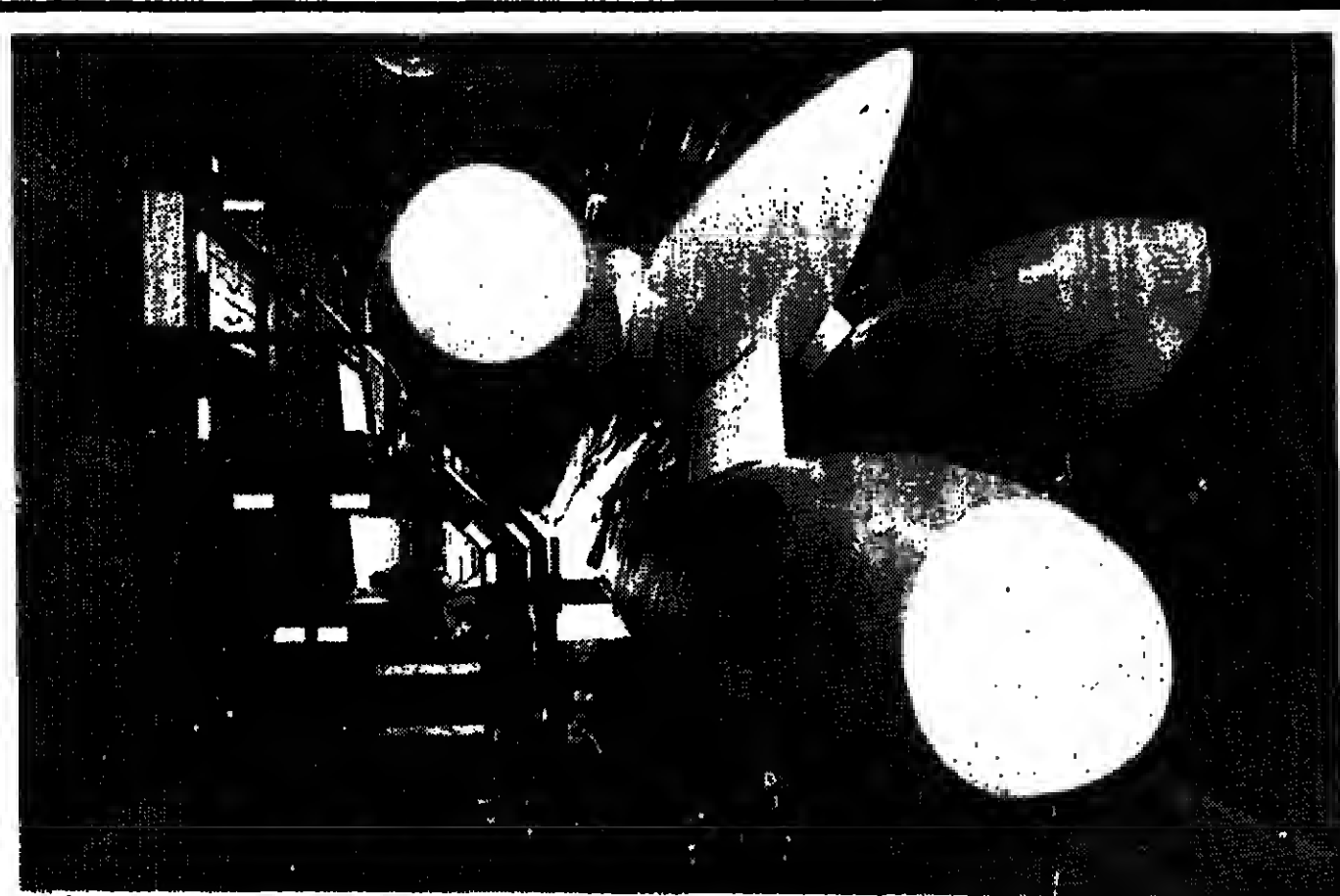
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Each US cruise missile is equipped with a nuclear warhead 16 times more powerful than the bomb that fell on Hiroshima.

## Canadians don't like to be used for US cruise missile target practice

By Anthony Westall  
Associate Editor in North America

FLYING over the vast frozen wastes of the Canadian arctic, the US B-52 bomber turns south, steadies itself on course and then drops a 6.4-meter missile. Stubby wings sprout from the missile, a jet engine kicks into life and radar begins to scan the barren lands below. Flying close to the ground at 800 kilometers per hour, and matching the radar view of the land to maps stored in its computer memory, the missile heads for its target in a weapon-testing range in northern Alberta.

If all goes well, that missile should be able to fly up to 2400 kilometers and arrive on target so accurately that it could, if so programmed, sweep between the goalposts on a football field.

To find out if its cruise missile is really that accurate when its radar has to read almost featureless frozen

land—the sort of terrain it would cross on its way to targets in the Soviet Union—the US government has received permission from the Canadian government to run.

The Canadian government's decision to allow the US tests has become the focus of the nuclear disarmament campaign in Canada. Under the slogan "Refuse the cruise," thousands of demonstrators have marched in Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto and other Canadian cities demanding that the tests not be allowed. They argue that the cruise missiles are a new and dangerous generation of weapons and represent an escalation in the arms race.

Through the summer, protesters occupied a "peace camp" of tents on the great lawn in front of the Houses of Parliament, displaying a mock-up of a cruise missile and lobbying politicians and the public.

Swamped with letters and petitions, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau took

the unprecedented step of writing an open letter to Canadian newspapers to defend his government's policy. He argued that as a member of NATO, Canada had to support the defense effort of its US neighbor and ally, and that in any case the cruise was only a response to the Soviet SS-20 missile already in place in Europe. Canadians who wanted shelter under the US umbrella, but no participation in defense were verging on hypocrisy, he said.

Critics were quick to point out that the airborne cruise missiles to be tested over Canada were part of the US strategic arsenal pointed at the Soviet Union over the North Pole, and would not be part of NATO's European strategy.

As both the governing Liberal Party and the opposition Progressive Conservative Party favor testing the cruises—with only the small New Democratic Party objecting—and with the polls showing that Canadians are about evenly divided on the question, there is not much chance that the protests will cause the government to change its mind.

—Anthony Westall



# Nuclear war is not a great worry for many

*In China the main concern is 'socialist modernization'*

By Zhou Lifang  
Special to WorldPaper

BEIJING—While the anti-nuclear demonstrations sweeping Western Europe and North America are viewed with sympathy by people in Beijing, Shanghai and other Chinese cities, people here in general don't seem to be so worried. Life goes on as usual.

"It's a truism that nuclear bombs are highly destructive," said Li Wanqing, a hotel manager in the Chinese capital, "but people in different countries may use different methods to fight against this threat. While sharing the feelings of the people of Europe and America who have been waging a years-long campaign against nuclear arms in the form of demonstrations, we Chinese are engaged in a drive to modernize our nation. We feel that a strong, modern China will be an important factor in preventing a nuclear war. China has developed a small nuclear arsenal with a view to forcing the two superpowers to give up the use of nuclear weapons."

"Whenever I come across news in the newspapers or on TV about the SALT talks, anti-nuclear demonstrations or whatever, I scoff at the empty talk and salute those people who are actively working against the arms race," said Cheng Jingping, a 23-year-old waitress at the hotel.

"Our main concern is our socialist modernization and the peaceful international environment which is necessary to accomplish our goal," she said. "I hope the day will come when China is much stronger and in a better position to prevent the outbreak of a nuclear war."

The government of China stands for a total and unconditional ban and complete destruction of nuclear weapons and, in recent years, has strongly demanded that as a first step the two superpowers take the lead in a drastic reduction of their nuclear armory.

Disappointed that its appeals and actions went unheeded by the Soviet Union and the United States, China became poignantly aware of the truth that it must break the superpowers' monopoly of nuclear arms to force them into accepting a general nuclear disarmament. That is why it set out to build its own atomic bombs in the early 1980s. In spite of this, China's position has remained in favor of complete prohibition of nuclear weapons and the arms race in general.

At the United Nations disarmament conference of 1982, China's then-Foreign Minister Huang Hua proposed that all nuclear powers undertake not to use nuclear weapons against others, that the two superpowers cut their present stocks of bombs by a half and that the other nuclear powers should then follow suit.

These proposals, hailed by most Third

World countries as reasonable and practical, received much the same cold response from the two superpowers, which refused to accept a general reduction of nuclear weapons.

In its latest endeavor, China again reiterated its demands through Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, who proposed at the 38th UN General Assembly session that the Soviet Union and the United States take practical action to stop testing, improving and producing nuclear weapons and agree to cut by half their bombs and delivery vehicles.

In the meantime, China demanded that no agreement between the USSR and the US must endanger the security and vital interests of other countries. China warned the Soviet Union in partic-

ular against redeploying in the Far East those SS-20 missiles which it claimed would be stripped from its bases in Europe.

Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and other leaders have described the popular movements against nuclear weapons and the arms race now surging in Western Europe and North America as just actions in the interests of people everywhere. Commenting on the worldwide campaigns against the superpowers' deployment of nuclear missiles, Chinese leader Hu Yaobang said in October, "The people will achieve their objective if only they persist in this struggle."

Zhou Lifang is a staff writer with China Features, an official agency.

## In India, 'most of our population is totally ignorant, and therefore unconcerned'

ON OCTOBER 21 in Bombay, while Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress Party was having one of its rare conventions, a small but significant thing happened. Rudiger Kurth, a secondary school teacher from West Germany, sat all day outside his country's downtown consulate to protest deployment of US Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe. He wanted to make Bombayites aware of "the greatest threat to the human race."

The impact of Kurth's act cannot be known, but for the average Indian, the further introduction of nuclear missiles into Europe is a remote, academic matter about which he knows little and cares even less. It is not something that he sees affecting his own life.

"Only a small proportion of the pop-

ulation—mostly the educated—are even aware of the problem in this part of the world," P.K.S. Nambodiri, a disarmament expert from New Delhi's Institute of Defense Studies and Allied Sciences pointed out. "But they don't feel threatened. It has never occurred to them that their own survival is at stake."

"Very few would feel that nuclear rivalry is not only bad for the two superpowers, but for the whole world. They fail to realize that it would not only have global impact, but would mean the annihilation of the developed world, to which their own country is linked. Most of our population is totally ignorant, and therefore unconcerned."

—Arun Chacko

## In Colombia, the worst bomb is the economic one

By Daniel Samper  
Special to WorldPaper

BOGOTA—Colombians feel that the worst bomb today is not nuclear but economic: high prices and rising crime.

"Do you know what worries me the most about nuclear war?" asks Guillermo Cortes, a businessman from Bogota. "That we may be bombed and yet survive the catastrophe," he answers. "Things being what they are, to survive would be the worst."

Like millions of Colombians, Cortes places the nuclear threat as the last of his concerns. Very few people lose sleep over the arms race, but many are kept awake by the high cost of living and the spreading of violence and crime.

According to one poll, the main national worries are unemployment and crime although the degree of concern varies with social class. The upper class is equally bothered about both problems. In the middle and lower classes, for every person whose main worry is crime, there are four others whose main concern is unemployment.

Claudio Delgado, a mechanic who earns US\$400 a month, constantly worries about the cost of living. "They say it will drop, but prices keep on going up. At home we always talk about money problems and how to get enough for food and the children's education." When asked about nuclear war, he says: "Well, sure,

that is very serious. But it is not what people are talking about. Once in a while, after a few beers, the subject comes up. But that's all."

Last August, the local Gallup organization polled Colombia's major cities to determine what people thought the country's main problems were. The response of those interviewed: 39.1 percent said unemployment; 13.6 percent, crime; 13 percent, economic recession; 8.1 percent, cost of living; 4.6 percent political violence; and 3 percent, lack of housing. The danger of world war was not even mentioned.

Mercedes de Tatur, a middle-class housewife, thinks that only journalists are concerned about the nuclear issue and says: "I have other things to worry about. Everything is so expensive that we no longer have enough for food. Utilities are getting more expensive every day. Worse yet, our taxes can't even support an effective police force."

In a Gallup survey last December, most Colombians said they thought the possibility of a nuclear war breaking out in the next decade was either minimal or not at all likely.

One can only agree with Mafalda, the most popular Latin American comic-strip character: "What's urgent doesn't leave us time for what's important."

Daniel Samper is a columnist with El Tiempo, a daily paper in Bogota.

In a survey of 900 California high school students and 300 Soviet children in Orlyonok, a pioneer camp on the Black Sea, 98.6 percent of the Soviet children said they were "worried" or "very worried" about nuclear war compared to 58.2 percent of the American children. A questionnaire (see box) was given to the same children as part of a joint study by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War and the Harvard Medical School department of psychiatry in Boston. The excerpts that follow are from videotaped discussions conducted for the same study.

## Once upon a time, there was a bomb...



Soviet children, aged 10 to 15, talk with US psychiatrist, Dr. Eric Chivian.

Girl 1: Nuclear war is very possible. It could start from any simple accident. If an American computer or our computer made a mistake, there would be war, accidentally.

Interviewer: Would it be possible to survive this nuclear war?

Girl 2: What can I say? If American rockets can reach us in half an hour, there won't be even time to hide or defend oneself.

Girl 3: Some will live, but become disabled from the radiation and there is very little chance that they could be cured.

Interviewer: But some people believe that you could hide underground or in a shelter and then it would be OK.

Girl 4: No. The air would be destroyed. The atmosphere would be destroyed.

Girl 6: It would be impossible to live. And when you come out of the bomb shelter after that kind of catastrophe, in the city there wouldn't be anything left alive. And how can that be. You'd have to start life all over again.

Boy 1: You couldn't survive a nuclear strike. The nuclear radioactivity remains for a very long time. And even if a person goes underground, no matter how much he wants to live, he wouldn't.

Girl 6: If such an explosion were to happen somewhere, then for tens and hundreds of kilometers around the atomic particles will be distributed and everything will be destroyed. The planet will turn into a wasteland.

Interviewer: No animals?

Girl 6: No.

Interviewer: Plants?

Girl 6: Of course not. Everything will be diseased.

Interviewer: In the whole earth?

Girl 6: Yes.



Soviet pioneers at the Orlyonok camp

Do you think a nuclear war between the US and USSR will happen during your lifetime?

SOVIET	AMERICAN
Yes 11.8%	Yes 38.5%
No 54.5%	No 15.0%
Uncertain 33.7%	Uncertain 44.5%

If there were a nuclear war, do you think that you and your family would survive?

SOVIET	AMERICAN
Yes 2.9%	Yes 16.5%
No 80.7%	No 41.5%
Uncertain 16.4%	Uncertain 41.1%

If there were a nuclear war, do you think that the US and the USSR would survive it?

SOVIET	AMERICAN*
Yes 6.1%	Yes 22.0%
No 78.9%	No 38.0%
Uncertain 15.0%	Uncertain 39.5%

Do you think nuclear war between the US and the USSR can be prevented?

SOVIET	AMERICAN
Yes 93.3%	Yes 65.0%
No 2.8%	No 14.5%
Uncertain 3.9%	Uncertain 20.0%

\*American children were asked only about the survival of the US.

## American children, aged 14 to 16, talk with Dr. Chivian.

Girl 1: You know, I just recently realized that maybe, one of these days, we won't even make it to 30. Who knows. But then again, I try not to be too negative about it.

Boy 1: You get a few crazy people who press a couple of buttons and blow up the world.

Interviewer: How does that make you feel?

Boy 2: Scared, kind of.

Interviewer: How do you describe that?

Boy 2: Someone could say if they want us dead or not. If someone makes a mistake, then we have to die too.

Boy 3: You know, if everyone else I knew in just this general area was going to go, I'd want to too. I keep thinking...a handful of survivors...I wouldn't want to be one of the survivors.

Interviewer: Do other people feel that way?

Girl 2: I wouldn't want to survive either because everything else would be gone and you would have nothing to look forward to because schools and some buildings would be knocked over and there wouldn't be any grass or animals left.

Interviewer: Do you imagine it or do you picture it?

Girl 2: No, because I can't imagine what it would be like.



# REAGAN'S STANDING IS IN THE EYES OF THE BEHOLDER

WorldPaper associate editors have different ideas about the effectiveness of the US president's international relations in general and his policies in their own regions in particular.

## HE'S ILL-INFORMED ON POLITICAL REALITIES

By Hilary Ng'wano  
Associate Editor in Sub-Saharan Africa

**N**AIROBI—The American invasion of Grenada has shown once again two basic weaknesses in the Reagan administration's conduct of foreign policy. One is its phobia about Cuba and the other its poor perception of world reality. The first has an immediate bearing on Africa, while the second augurs badly for the broader interest of peace in the world—particularly since at the moment the Soviet Union exhibits a similar impairment of perception.

The main pivot of American-African relations is South Africa and Namibia. Though in the long run it is the future of South Africa itself that will determine the outcome of these relations, for the time being it is Namibia that matters. There the United States has taken a strong position in support of the South African regime's insistence that independence cannot be granted to Namibia, which South Africa rules in defiance of the United Nations, until the Cuban troops, numbering 25,000 or so, in Angola leave.

*'There is the possibility, no longer remote, that Reagan's attempts to rescue the world from Cuban communism may extend to the African continent.'*

It is a most unreasonable insistence in view of the frequent attacks the South African regime has mounted against Angola, and it is an insistence that has been rejected not only by the Organization of African Unity but by Washington's own partners in the so-called Western contact group of nations, which includes West Germany, France, Britain and Canada.

Most African leaders have suspected that the United States had her own reasons for wanting Cuban troops out of Angola. Far from being an honest broker between the Pretoria regime and those fighting for the independence of Namibia

(principally the freedom fighters of the South West African People's Organization), the United States seemed mainly interested in "containing" Cuba's worldwide revolutionary adventures. Since the invasion of Grenada and Washington's attempts to justify the aggression on the grounds that Grenada was being turned into a kind of Cuban colony, it is clear that the auspicious are justified.

Washington, it would appear, is prepared, nay only too eager, to take on Cu-

hans wherever they may be. And since the vast majority of Cuba's military expeditionary forces are in Africa, there is the possibility, no longer remote, that Reagan's attempts to rescue the world from Cuban communism may extend to the African continent. The only consolation, if indeed it is any consolation at all, is that in South Africa Reagan has an ally even more eager to do battle with the Cu-

hans. For the time being it is likely that Pretoria will do Washington's job in respect to the Cubans in southern Africa.

Presumably, Africa can cope with this myopic tendency in American foreign policy, for in the long run there is no doubt that the aberrations of apartheid and the oppressive structures that support it in southern Africa will be eliminated. But whether we live long enough to see that long run will depend on whether the Grenada kinds of blunders are mere aberrations in Washington's foreign policy and whether the Soviet Union, in particular, will be capable of avoiding similar blunders of her own in response to Reagan's adventures.

Grenada showed how ill-informed the Reagan administration is about political realities even in America's own backyard. Reagan's intelligence advisers at once overestimated the numbers of Cubans (and Russians) on the island and underestimated the resistance which the invading American forces met. Instead of the six days that Reagan told Americans the invading troops would stay on the island, they ended up staying for weeks.

The American press and public have accused Reagan of lying about the intentions behind the invasion, but if Reagan lied it is only in the sense that he did not have the truth about the political situation in Grenada. Which raises the uneasy question: Does he have the truth about

political reality elsewhere in the world? In the Middle East, for instance? Or in Europe in respect to the missile controversy?

The uneasiness behind such questions should turn to downright fright when it is realized that the chief protagonist of the United States—the Soviet Union—may be laboring under a similarly clouded vision of political reality in the world. After all, the Russians did blunder into Afghanistan, promising the rest of the world—if not their own people—that their military intervention would be short-lived. They are still in Afghanistan three years later and the situation does not seem to be improving.

*'Much depends on whether the Soviet Union will be capable of avoiding similar blunders of her own in response to Reagan's adventures.'*

Only a few weeks ago, Soviet authorities shot down an unarmed South Korean civilian jet liner which strayed into Soviet airspace. The excuse, among many, offered by the Kremlin was that the Soviet air defense experts thought the jet liner was an American spy plane. With both superpowers so prone to shooting first and asking questions later, the world appears headed toward a most dangerous period.

Hilary Ng'wano is founder and editor of the Weekly Review, a news magazine.

## HIS STRATEGIC CONCERN IS WELCOME

By Carlos Rangel  
Associate Editor in Latin America

**C**ARACAS—Not unnaturally, we Latin Americans tend to judge the Reagan administration by what they do—or fail to do—for or against us. And ever since Franklin D. Roosevelt's Good Neighbor Policy, there is a general perception here of Democratic administrations as friendlier, more tactful and more sympathetic than Republican ones.

John F. Kennedy, for instance, was popular here before he was at all known or had made any gesture toward us. And except for those Latin Americans who were and remain dogmatically anti-US, Kennedy's image came out of the Bay of Pigs episode largely unimpaired.

On the other hand, Nixon didn't like us and we didn't like him. He couldn't care less if Latin American governments were democratic or tyrannical as long as they were faithful allies. And we suspected that even this wasn't all that important to him or to his Secretary of State Henry Kissinger since they both discredited

Latin America as of no particular strategic value, which may or may not be true but is surely offensive. Even the CIA's role in Allende's overthrow may be viewed in this context as a case of "negligent neglect."

Lyndon Johnson, after Kennedy and before Nixon, thought and acted like our idea of a Republican president even though he was a Democrat. He was obsessed with distant Vietnam and with Latin America. His one assertive act in the region was to send the marines to the Dominican Republic in 1966, the last time, up to Reagan's Grenada move, when the US belined in this hemisphere like a true world power.

Jimmy Carter did respond to our notion of how Democratic presidents ought to act toward Latin America. He obviously cared. He felt hemispheric relations were important. He even attempted to say a few words in Spanish and perceived the need to define the Panama Canal Zone time bomb. The resulting treaties (stridently denounced at the time by Ronald Reagan) were a milestone in hemispheric relations.

So Ronald Reagan, because of our experience with Republican presidents before him, came to bat with two strikes against him. But let me say right away that he hasn't struck out by any account. One reason is that he apparently doesn't share the strategic disdain that other Republican presidents (and Lyndon Johnson) have shown toward our region.

His decisiveness on Grenada was outwardly met in Latin America with the predictable chorus of pious invocations of

the sacrosanct principles of non-intervention and self-determination. But true feelings were rather ones of relief that as extreme a provocation as had been offered in that island by Cuba and the Soviet Union had not gone unanswered by the United States.

*'UN Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, Reagan official whose intense interest in Latin American affairs is welcome.'*

In Venezuela, the defense minister admitted in a TV interview that for this country the former situation in Grenada spelled acute danger. El Universal, the country's leading daily, editorialized that Venezuela should have joined Jamaica and Barbados in asking for US action instead of issuing an ambiguous official communique after the fact.

While the commitment of American combat troops in Grenada has furnished the ultimate test of strategic concern for our region on the part of President Reagan, the Falkland crisis had already tested his administration on that account. Even though he failed, Secretary of State Alexander Haig invested an enormous amount of time and effort trying to avert the shooting. Few of us, on the other hand, understand or forgive the US coming down squarely on the side of Great Britain (instead of staying neutral) when the clash of arms could not be averted.

UN Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick is another high Reagan official whose intense interest in Latin American affairs is welcome even though she has become an easy target by her candor in holding that there is a crucial distinction between authoritarian regimes and totalitarian ones. Many more Latin Americans than is realized by liberals in the US Congress or in the media agree with that concept and agree also that the elected government of El Salvador must be helped and the Sandinista government in Nicaragua persuaded or forced to keep its pledge not to carry that country over to the communist camp.

The Caribbean Basin Initiative is another good point for Mr. Reagan among thinking people in Latin America, who have not failed to notice that this economic aid plan has not exactly the wholehearted support of the US Congress. Social and political problems in Latin America should be solved as if by magic before there is any right on the part of the US to bring the threat of force or force itself to bear in defense of what are, after all, common interests.

While some Salvadoreans, Costa Ricans (or Venezuelans, or Colombians) may sincerely wish, for their respective countries, an extension of the type of regime that has jelled solid in Cuba and is hardening day by day in Nicaragua, the immense majority of Latin Americans want none of that and are grateful that there is at the present time a US administration that apparently will not accept the fraudulent notion that such is the tide of history.

Carlos Rangel co-hosts a leading Venezuelan television program.

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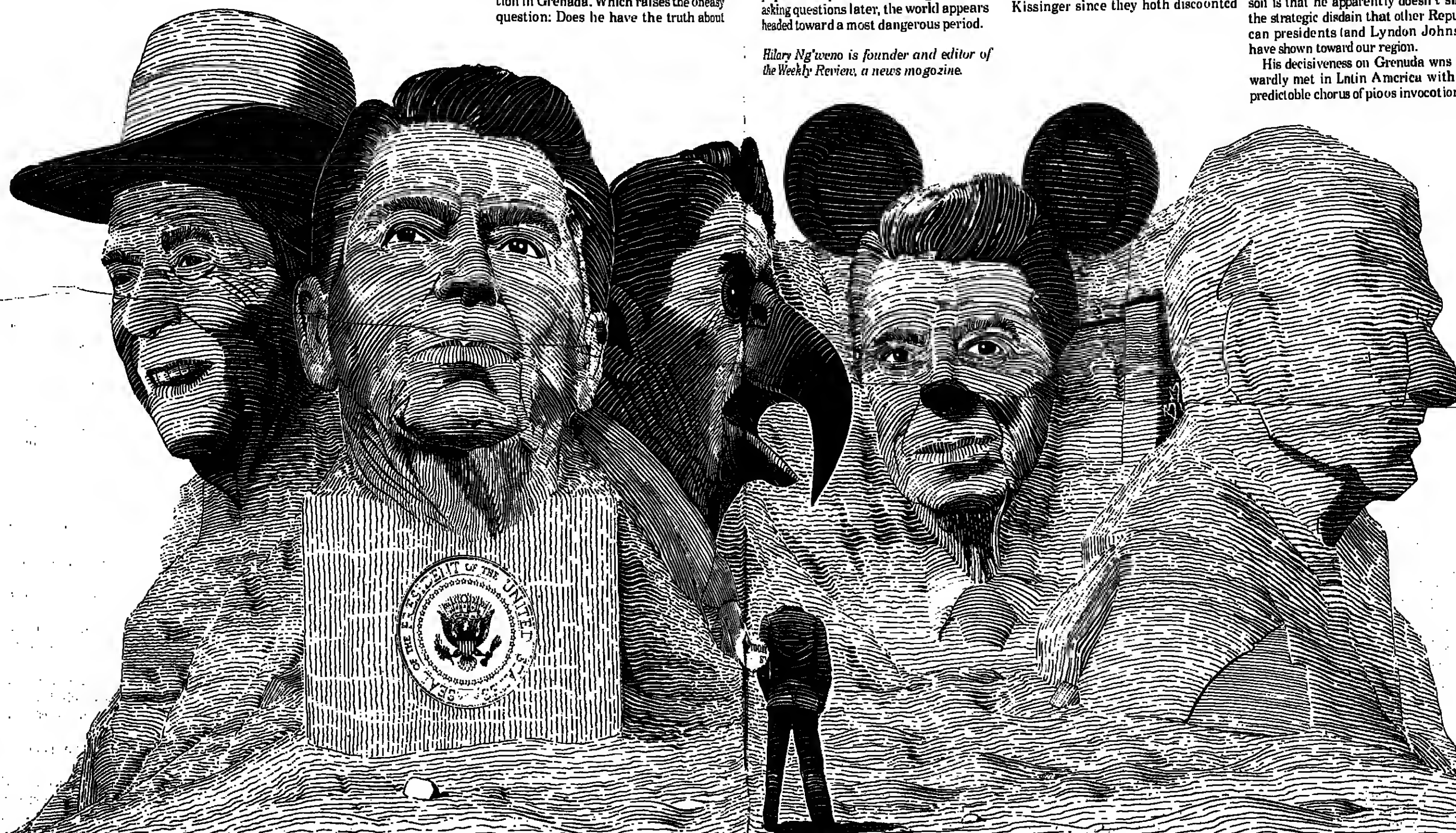


Illustration by Christopher Ding



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## REAGAN'S STANDING IS IN THE EYES OF THE BEHOLDER

### CONFUSING POLICY CASTS DOUBTS IN CHINA

By Zhou Lifang  
Special to WorldPaper

**B**EIJING—The Chinese don't see as much of Ronald Reagan on television as Americans do. But they do see him occasionally—campaigning for his "robbing-the-poor-to-aid-the-rich" Reaganomics program, threatening the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, hacking up the blustering Begin in Israel or stalling the North-South dialogue at Cancun.

In spite of this, however, for one would give him a 30 percent-positive and 70 percent-negative rating for his domestic and foreign policy performance.

Internationally, the Reagan administration has shown a tougher stance by beefing up US defense capabilities. But a tendency toward compromise rears its head from time to time.

Reagan's apathy toward North-South cooperation, the establishment of a more equitable new world economic order and aid to developing countries has lost him many friends and sympathizers in the Third World.

What has irritated and exasperated the Chinese time and time again has been Reagan's strangely confusing China policy, particularly his interference in China's internal affairs by treating Taiwan as an "independent state."

Take what has happened this year. Shortly after Secretary of State George Shultz came to China in February, with Reagan's pronouns to improve US-China relations, the US government agreed to grant "political asylum" to Hu Na, a teenage tennis player allegedly defecting on her own but actually being placed under the control of her Taiwanese lawyer.

Despite Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige's opposition, in November 1982, the US government decided to sell some \$530 million in arms to Taiwan in July.

This kind of glaring inconsistency in the United States' China policy has cast serious doubt among the Chinese on Reagan's pronouncements of his readiness to befriend China.

There have been reports of improvements in Sino-American relations in recent months and Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger's visit to China has been viewed generally as a notable sign of progress. But it remains to be seen whether Reagan really means what he says about his goodwill toward China in future developments.

The Chinese hold Reagan in due respect as the constitutionally elected president of the United States. But he certainly does not have the kind of appeal to the Chinese as to many Americans who like his affable manner on television, even his awkward way of trying to get away—with a few self-deprecating jokes and charming smiles—when he is caught blundering facts and ideas at news conferences.

Reagan's new policy of renewing and upgrading military intervention in Central America has made him even more unpopular in this part of the world. He shouldn't have committed himself to so much support for Begin's policy of aggression and expansion in the Middle East. And he should have maintained strict neutrality during the Falkland Islands/Malvinas crisis. Reagan is also hand in glove with South Africa's racist regime in trying to forestall Namibia's independence.

While trying to solidify a proper image of Reagan for myself, recollection of an episode in the summer of 1982 crept into my mind.

At an evening party in a New York home, I heard someone refer to Reagan as "our president." "OUR president?" another quipped. "So to speak," a third voice chimed in, followed by a roar of laughter that filled the room. I began to wonder how many Americans would call him "our president" with genuine sincerity from the bottom of their hearts.

At Associate Editor Chen Lung's request, this was written by Zhou Lifang, his colleague at China Features, an official agency.

### COLLISION COURSE CAN'T GO ON TOO LONG

By Silviu Brucan  
Associate Editor in Eastern Europe

**B**UCHAREST—From the very beginning, Ronald Reagan's coming to power has been viewed in Eastern Europe as a marked shift to the right in US policy. Although Mr. Reagan has found it necessary to make certain adjustments to accommodate hard realities, his political instinct seems always to favor a tough America-first line.

However, a return of the Cold War is not in the cards. For one thing, the world today is much more complex than the "two camps" of the fifties. The Iron Curtain between the East and West is gone, and ideological lines are crosscutting and all over the place. Scattered over all continents, it is no longer possible to run the world from two centers, or even to exercise control over allies or clients.



What, then, are the prospects for Reagan's revival of the containment policy vis-à-vis the Soviet Union—keeping in mind that the old one was limited to Europe whereas today it must necessarily cover the whole globe?

Obviously, the circumstances are much less auspicious today than they were 20 years ago. Suffice it to look at the Middle East where Washington's stubborn refusal to acknowledge Soviet interests in an area of such geographical proximity to the USSR has led to an endless succession of armed hostilities that threaten to defeat the very purpose of Western strategy in the Middle East. If such a policy continues, Western Europe will have to look for oil elsewhere.

Global containment policy presupposes a clear military superiority and a readiness to undertake military intervention wherever necessary—this is how the logic of Reagan's policy is viewed in the East. The most dangerous effect of that policy stems from the Soviet conviction that the aim of Reagan's military thrust—from the MX to the deployment of Pershing II missiles in Europe—is the achievement of a first-strike capability. Actually, this is what military superiority means in the nuclear era.

Such a conviction is strengthened by the fact that in recent years the US has systematically closed all the channels of East-West cooperation, particularly in the economic field, that previous American presidents have sought to preserve or enlarge. The unique channel opened up with the grain accord has revealed the narrow selfishness that guides Washington's trade policy with the East these days. And it is precisely in the economic area that past initiatives have succeeded in taking the chill off East-West relations. Any realistic strategy for peace must proceed from the assumption that economic and technological exchanges should take precedence over political and military competition, binding the two parties together.

But a Soviet-American agreement of that kind is not likely in the immediate future.

The present collision course in US-Soviet relations cannot go on for too long. Domestic and international pressures are compelling both sides to seek some kind of arms control agreement. While Mr. Reagan cannot run for re-election on a platform of confrontation policy, Mr. Andropov cannot proceed with urgent reforms to get the economy going so long as the USSR and the US are at loggerheads.

Silviu Brucan, former Romanian ambassador to the UN, is past editor of the national newspaper Scinteia.

### EUROPEANS DON'T WANT TO PAY FOR U.S. ERRORS

By Jacqueline Grapin  
Associate Editor in Western Europe

**G**ENEVA—When a huge crowd of 200,000 demonstrators swamps the lawn in front of the White House under the placid eyes of the uniformed officers who direct the flow of cars as usual, nobody thinks they are anti-American.

Things are different in Europe. It is difficult for a supporter of the Atlantic alliance to voice reservations on US policies

without the risk of being treated as an opponent of NATO or the US. This is all the more true if he is a socialist. As a result, most politicians of the European Community, when evaluating American policies on matters of common interest, express their opinions with extreme caution—when they express them at all—and always keep in mind the possible repercussions at home.

In spite of all this, many Europeans are beginning to question President Reagan's policies. The perfect timing of the American economic recovery with the start of the presidential campaign makes some people doubt the longevity of this recovery. For the Europeans, the most concrete result of the American policies is the rising value of the dollar over the French franc and German mark. While the Americans encourage the Europeans to reduce spending in order to limit their debts—with some success since even the socialists are abiding by these guidelines at the risk of alienating their electorate—the US runs up a \$200 billion budget deficit, which is twice as much as forecast. And while most countries must draw from their income in order to repay their debts, the US just has to push up the interest rates and to print new dollar bills to meet their own needs.

This system is so destabilizing for the entire world that most Europeans are worried. They have known for years that when America dreams, Europe has nightmare and under the present circumstances, any American error may be fatal for Europe.

The evaluation of errors, however, is in itself a political problem. The mocking attitude of Washington toward French hesitations in Chad is a consequence of the criticism voiced by the French president against Reagan's transfer of the East-West conflict to the events in Central America. But almost all Europeans reproach the Reagan administration for ignoring the needs of the peoples of Latin America.

Obviously, the cultural values of a former Hollywood actor and of an old socialist politician educated "à la française" are quite different. But even though French-American quarrels may be traditional, they are not all the same. Since the Reagan administration recognizes that socialist France is sincerely pro-NATO. Because of its location in the center of Europe, France has significant influence on the cohesion of Western Europe, whether Washington likes it or not. But it is impossible to deny the power represented by President Reagan, or the improvement of the US position all over the world as a result of his policies.

The Europeans are essentially careful not to be put in a position where they would pay the price of American errors. This explains the constant unanimity of the Europeans in favor of a compromise in the Geneva Euromissile negotiations, regardless of the US stand. And the Europeans remember, when Washington asks them to be firm toward the Soviet Union, that the Reagan administration has just signed a contract with Moscow for the delivery of 9 million tons of grain per year with the express assurance that Washington will not stop the deal for political reasons. Europeans understand very well that the electoral campaign will start soon in the United States, and that the farmers of the Midwest are among the staunchest supporters of Mr. Reagan.

Jacqueline Grapin is a columnist for the French newspaper Le Monde.

Illustration by Christopher Rine

Parents

## Thirty million slaves

A grim reality that still exists all over the world

By David Sinclair  
Special to WorldPaper

**LONDON**—This year marks the 150th anniversary of the death of William Wilberforce, the great English social reformer who was responsible for the abolition of the slave trade in Britain and her colonies in 1807. It is also 20 years since the Act of Emancipation, passed a few years after Wilberforce's death, prohibited the owning of slaves anywhere in the British Empire (at that time a large part of the world).

All this is history now. But there is plenty of evidence to suggest that the work Wilberforce began is far from finished.

"Every age produces its own kinds of slavery," says Peter Davies, director of the London-based Anti-Slavery Society, founded by Wilberforce in 1823. "There are probably more slaves in the world now than there were in the time of Wilberforce."

During the eighteenth century, about 15 million Africans were abducted from their homeland and sold into slavery. Today, according to some estimates, perhaps double that number of people live in various forms of involuntary servitude as defined by the United Nations in 1956, including chattel slavery, debt bondage and the exploitation of children.

Chattel slavery—that is, the absolute ownership of one person by another, like a piece of property—was the target of Wilberforce's campaign. In 1983, it appears to be limited to the Sahel region of North Africa. As many as 100,000 people in Mauritania are believed to be slaves.

The Mauritanian government passed a law abolishing slavery in 1980, but the practice persists, according to the Anti-Slavery Society.

One problem, acknowledged by the UN, is that Mauritania is a poor country and the system of bondage at least offers its poorest inhabitants a form of security. As Anti-Slavery Society director Davies notes, "There is no point in freeing a slave if all you are freeing him to is starvation. We have to find a way of restructuring society so that these people have the maximum number of choices possible in a depressed economy."

More widespread, more worrying and more sinister than chattel slavery is the system of debt bondage that is estimated to trap as many as 25 million people in India and South America, as well as parts of Europe such as Greece and Sicily.

The story of one Indian family, released recently from bondage by a Hindu religious group, illustrates how the ties of slavery through debt works. In the early 1970s, a poor farmer named Wasal decided he could do better by going to work for a local brickmaker. He took his whole family with him, as well as 80 relatives and friends, having been told that he would earn commissions by winning recruits for work in the brick kilns.

When Wasal arrived to start his job, the kiln owner produced false documents showing he had been paid an advance of 6000 rupees and said Wasal and his family would have to work to pay off this debt.

For seven years, Wasal was paid nothing for his work—which at times amounted to 18 hours a day, seven days a week—and the food provided for his family was often inadequate. When, after four years, he sought permission to visit his home village, the kiln operator kept some of his family hostage to ensure Wasal's return.

Beatings and other forms of intimidation were common at the kilns, Wasal told his rescuers, and the workers were constantly guarded lest they should try to escape. After 11 years, Wasal did escape and contacted the religious group headed by Swami Agnivesh to rescue his family.

A similar system, known as "tha yoka," operates in Brazil, where workers are kept in servitude by phony contracts, illegal deductions from wages and falsified purchases from stores owned by their employers.

"Workers in such situations cannot move or sell their labor elsewhere," says an anti-slavery campaigner. "They are slaves who belong to the boss and are bullied by his henchmen."

What most worries the Anti-Slavery Society at present, however, is the apparently growing exploitation of children and young women, sometimes for factory work but more often for sexual purposes. In Bangkok, children are sold for between \$75 and \$100 to factories and brothels. In Pakistan and India, there are thousands,

perhaps hundreds of thousands, of child prostitutes—the city of Bombay alone has an estimated 3000. Well-organized gangs kidnap children from remote villages and sell them in the cities.

Police in Pakistan recently broke up an export ring for prostitutes that abducted girls in Bengal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka and sent them to the Gulf states for prices of up to \$1000 each. So serious is this trade in girls becoming that last February women in Bangladesh took to public demonstrations in an attempt to force police action.

Modern forms of slavery are not exclusive to the Third World. In the United States last year, three men were jailed for kidnapping migrant workers and holding them by force on a farm in North Carolina (one of the men had died through being forced to work while he was ill). And in wealthy Beverly Hills, California, a police investigation revealed a trade in domestic servants from Indonesia, smuggled into the US and sold for as much as \$3000 each.

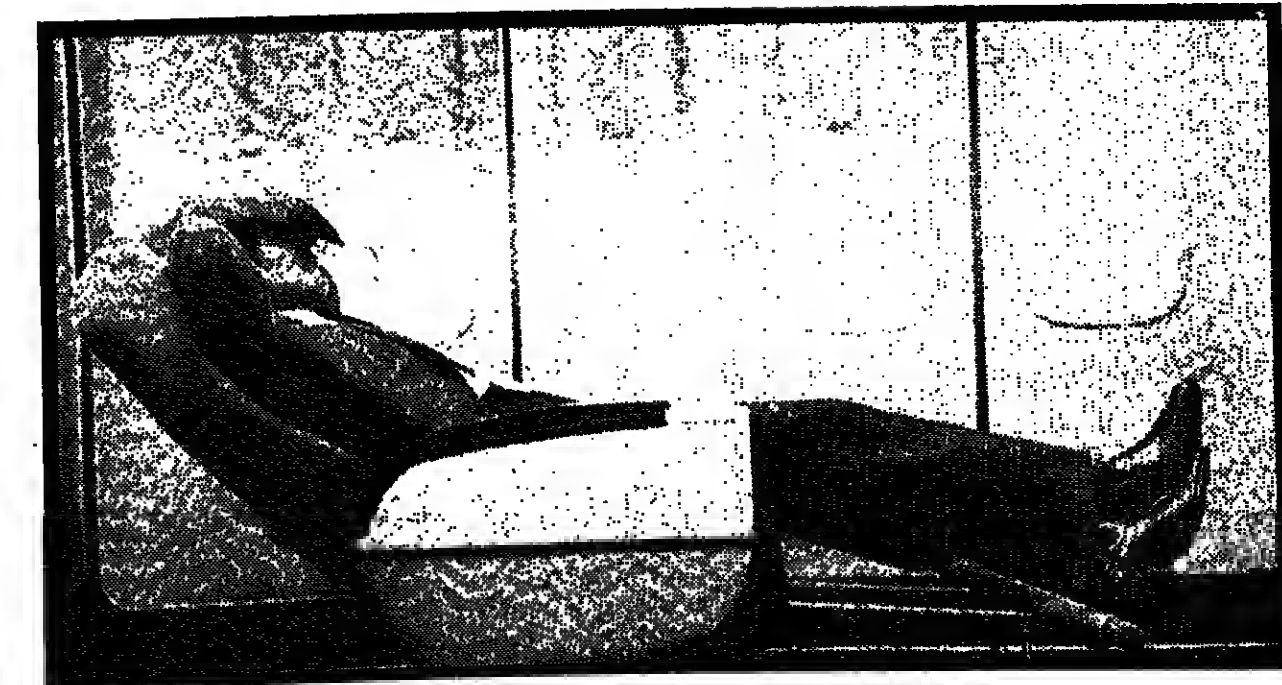
Last summer, a former official of the Anti-Slavery Society reported to the British Foreign Office that there were cases of slave-holding among Third World diplomats and some Europeans living in London. In one instance, an embassy official who had to enter a hospital insisted that his slave he allowed to sleep in the doorway of his room. In another case, a girl held on diplomatic premises showed police the results of beatings she had received and said she had sometimes been "loaned" to friends of her master.

In August, the Filipino embassy in London confirmed reports in a Sunday newspaper that wealthy Arabs living in the city's most fashionable district were keeping teenage girls from the Philippines in conditions of slavery. Girls questioned by the newspaper said they had been lured from home by promises, only to find that once in London they were locked up, beaten, sometimes raped and made to work up to 19 hours a day.

It may be 150 years since the death of the man who brought to the world's attention the evils of slavery, but as Peter Davies says, "I think Wilberforce would be appalled by the scale of slavery today."

David Sinclair is a London-based journalist and biographer.

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## His 1972 rationale for martial law is 1983's reason for removal

By Mercedes Tira-Andrei  
Special to WorldPaper

WASHINGTON—When Ferdinand Marcos imposed martial law across his country on September 21, 1972, he raised the specter of chaos and crisis strangling the Philippines. Today, that specter has taken flesh and blood, threatening to break apart the nation he wanted to change according to his own image.

With growing public demonstrations against the regime, and the assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, Marcos has begun to lose support among the politically crucial middle class and businessmen.

A charismatic man, a democrat at heart, and an avid student of history, when he came to power in the mid-1960s, Marcos easily won over a people desperately wanting to shake off their reputation as "brown Americans," an identity pinned on Filipinos after almost half a century as colonial proteges of the United States.

The people even welcomed martial law—except for the jungle rebellion of this secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in the southern island of Mindanao, the underground Communist Party of the Philippines whose New People's Army (NPA) engaged in guerrilla warfare in rural areas, and a cluster of intellectuals who saw in the Marcos solution a subtle but pernicious annihilation of the basic freedoms and the building of a military machine that could crush the democratic process.

No tents plied the streets. Housewives, in general, welcomed the hours of curfew and, subsequently—despite government policy to curb the birth rate—delivered a boom of babies, many of them later named after Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos. To the local businessman, the demonstrators' riots became a nightmare of the past. People faithfully attended church, joined the charismatic movement and launched Bible study groups that became the vogue in business sectors, entertainment circles, academia, the labor front, the military and even in the prisons.

But Malacanang Palace, once a public park, became the home of soldiers. The military infiltrated civilian life, becoming an ombudsman of sorts—retiring generals to become captains of industry, surveilling the man on the street, dismantling families through political detentions and engineering a secret police system hitherto unknown in the people's history, except perhaps during the Japanese occupation.

Overseas big businessmen flocked into the country, pleased and secure. Foreign dignitaries from all corners of the globe, dined, danced and were decorated in Malacanang Palace. The jet-set crowd, tourists, world conferences, a "Miss Universe" beauty pageant and all sorts of festivals turned the Philippines into a dream travel spot.

Emerging from the traditionally quiet role of First Lady of the Land, Mrs. Marcos stepped onto the stage to share power and glory with her husband as governor of Metro Manila, minister of human settlements, member of the government caretaker committee and personal envoy of and negotiator for her husband's foreign policies. Under her offices, she pro-



**Aquino's death punctured the patience of the long-suffering Filipinos. It let loose a magnitude of pent-up opposition to Marcos and his regime so overwhelming that it augurs the beginning of the end of what he loves to call 'my covenant with the people'.**

claimed the ancient city of Manila the world's new "City of Man."

Very soon, the First Couple were swapping development projects, bridges, highways, social reform projects and anti-poverty schemes as birthday and wedding anniversary gifts—gestures which reduced the Filipino populace into a society of spectators. Relatives of the First Family became so visible in so short a time as managers of government, business, diplomacy and cultural affairs that many thought, with alarm, that the Marcoses were transforming a dynastic dream into real life.

In diplomacy, Marcos was adroit. He took a path independent from Washington, and opened trade and diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the rest of the socialist countries (except Albania). He also strengthened ties with Libya and the rest of the Arab world. He allied the Philippines with the Third World bloc of nations, with an eye to getting a seat in the non-aligned movement, cemented relations with the regional Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), befriended Japan and Korea and kept ties with Israel and Taiwan.

Ironically, it was the lifting of martial law in 1981 that removed the mantle that covered the sins and excesses of the Marcos era.

As soon as their freedoms to speak and to assemble were restored, the people grumbled a bit more openly. The press, trying to recapture its lost independence, began covering the harsh realities of Philippine life, the downtrend in the economy, the continuing military abuses, the increasing strength and allure of the NPA—but the First Family remained untouchable. The labor sector returned to the strike line asking for more wages and

jobs. Student activists took to the streets once more to protest what they called "the US-Marcos dictatorship."

Suddenly, on August 21 of this year, Filipinos, reeling in anger, shame and grief, were thrust back into the focus of the world. On that day, Benigno S. Aquino, hailed as chief critic of President Marcos and strongest contender for the presidency, was brutally murdered seconds after he stepped on his native soil.

Aquino's death punctured the patience of the long-suffering Filipinos. It let loose a magnitude of pent-up opposition to Marcos and his regime so overwhelming that it augurs the beginning of the end of what he loves to call "my covenant with the people."

To be sure, other Filipinos torn by the Aquino tragedy still stand by the 66-year-old president with a measure of loyalty and "respect for a man in his last days."

"He has a deep sense of history," explains one journalist. "He has raised the Filipino identity to a degree one can be proud of today. It was Mr. Marcos who battled the crisis alone. Where are the moderates [the opposition]? They're mostly abroad. We're stuck between the Communists and the impending military junta."

Still, those who share the president's sense of nation speak now of his hubris. "Weep not so much of Ninoy [Aquino] but more for him [Marcos] because he is a proud man, he has become a tragic figure," says a young government official. "He should have left before all this happened. Ninoy beat him in the race to unite the people."

In more ways than one, the most stubborn root cause of the current agitation in the Philippines is the economic crisis that has gripped the country since the end of World War II. Filipinos still describe their economy as "isang kahig, isang tukla," a

phenomenon of being poor and rich at the same time, a paradox and a tragedy.

In fairness to Marcos, the current of the country's economic woes run back to his era to the old days of Philippine-American colonial relations. It was in that period, says Jess Estanislao, director of the Institute of Industrial Economics in Manila, that "the pattern of Philippine exports shifted towards one of predominant concentration on the American market. Two export crops, sugar and coconuts, became the engine of the Philippine economy."

But with just one buyer—the United States—for its raw material exports, the Philippines became a laggard in rapidly changing, highly technologized world economy. It was not truly catapulted from a relatively underdeveloped state to an acceptably developed one.

Filipino economic historians cite this economic subservience to America as a major factor in the country's economic plight, but they add to this evidence of the economic mismanagement by government administrations, among them President Marcos, whose regime generated more virulent types of economic errors—favoritism, corruption, extravagance and nepotism.

The situation in the islands is aggravated by the absence of press freedom, a splintered, headless opposition, the lack of a trustworthy successor to the president and a rapidly expanding communist insurgency.

Although NPA guerrillas have not been known to goad protests in the cities, they hold the ultimate potential of becoming the only organized threat, the real opposition that could break the Marcos rule and radicalize life in the country. This is bound to happen, Filipinos themselves admit, if the socio-economic crisis continues to last.

As ferment crisscrosses the country, the question of whether the Philippines will explode plagues the minds of many. The answer is no, not in the foreseeable future anyway. At the moment, Marcos has been giving concessions to his opposition. The Philippine Supreme Court has upheld the right to protest. The military has been held at bay.

Meanwhile, the people pull their belts tighter than ever as the government continues to impose austerity measures to pay foreign creditors. Justice for the slain senator continues to be a center of controversy and prejudice. Cardinal Sin, though not a Khomeini, does not cease public admonition of the Marcoses, whom he calls "my parishioners" and accuses them of being adherents "to practices that bring back memories of Mr. Goebbels of Nazi Germany."

"The people hunger for a peaceful change," says a Filipino Catholic intellectual. "They are praying to keep themselves awake, they're praying away Mr. Marcos."

A skillful political tactician, Marcos has announced that he will run for reelection in 1987. People are not surprised, knowing how, like a virtuoso, he can play on people's anger, fears, aspirations and anxieties. Both detractors and admirers know his charming power to offer the carrot before lashing the stick. As the saying goes, "Marcos bribes before he threatens, threatens before he arrests, arrests before he kills."

But one cannot run a country by skillful politics alone. Ultimately, it is economics that will determine the longevity of a regime. And economics is the Achilles' heel of Marcos.

Mercedes Tira-Andrei is a Washington-based writer for Business Day of Manila.

## Currents

# Argentina goes democratic

## Alfonsín's exceptional opportunity

By Mario Diamant  
Special to WorldPaper

BUENOS AIRES—With Raúl Alfonsín's inauguration as president on December 10, Argentina turns the darkest page in its history and faces a new beginning filled with hope.

Alfonsín's upset victory puts an end to seven-year brutal military regimes that kidnapped and assassinated over 15,000 people in its attempts to "defend Argentina against Marxist subversion." The incompetent regime dragged the country into a demented war for the Falkland/Malvinas Islands, destroyed the nation's industry and ruined its economy—which today hobbles along with an annual inflation rate of 1000 percent and a US\$12 billion foreign debt.

Even Argentinians are dumbfounded by the country's political history. In the past 50 years, only one president (Juan Perón, 1946-1955) has completed his term in office. Otherwise, short-lived civilian administrations have been followed by ineffective military regimes in endless succession. Argentina, a vast country rich in natural resources and equal to Canada in development before World War II, has slowly been sinking under the weight of its political tragedy.

The victory of Alfonsín and his Radical Civic Union (UCR) party—a moderate party, radical in name only—has brought sanity back to Argentina. More important, it shattered the myth of Peronism's invincibility, a myth that has dominated the nation's history for the last 40 years.

In 1945 Juan Perón—then an army colonel—founded a political movement based on Benito Mussolini's ideas of radical social change and nationalism. By gaining control over the powerful union movement and echoing the expectations and hopes of the poorer sectors of the population, Perón turned Argentina's working class into a political weapon that became the key to the success—or failure—of any political process in the country.

Even when he was exiled in Spain from 1955 to 1973, Perón's influence continued unabated. In 1958, for example, Arturo Frondizi was elected president only because Peronism had been banned and the exiled leader had ordered his party to support Frondizi. In 1963 the Radical Civic Union candidate, Arturo Illia, became president with only 29 percent of the vote. That time Perón had instructed his partisans to cast "blank votes"—that is, to abstain from supporting any candidate.

Each and every time the movement was allowed to participate in free elections, Peronism won automatically. But on the three occasions it governed, it ruthlessly used force, crushing all opposition, banning newspapers, replacing elected provincial governors with its own delegates and creating a rampant climate of corruption and favoritism throughout the country. The slogan "for a Peronist there is nothing better than another Peronist" accurately reflected the political reality.

Peronism never had the structure of an organized party but was more like a loose movement that included the whole political spectrum—from the radical left to the radical right. In spite of its

Raúl Alfonsín (right) campaigned vigorously and successfully for the presidency. He led his middle-class party, the Radical Civic Union, to a surprise victory in October, defeating Italo Luder, a Peronist. Alfonsín garnered 52 percent of the vote to Luder's 40 percent, decisively ending the decades-long Peronist domination of Argentina's political life.



the utter defeat in the campaign, but above all because the extent of their deceitfulness, corruption and ineptitude became so obvious.

This is why Raúl Alfonsín's victory is so significant. It not only demystifies the power of Peronism, but also reinstates democracy in Argentina. Ideologically, Alfonsín is close to the European social democrats. A committed defender of human rights, he proposes establishing a mixed economy, giving top priority to education, democratizing all unions and curbing the power of the military. He is a simple man and an eloquent orator.

While Argentina's social and economic crisis is such that there can be no significant recovery in the short run, Alfonsín does have an exceptional opportunity to lead the country. He will have a chance to govern for some time without the specter of the military lurking behind him. Moreover, the 52 percent vote he received, compared to 40 percent for the Peronist candidate, gives him the necessary margin to implement reforms and to maintain the autonomy of his party without having to make the compromises that so often are required of governments elected by coalitions.

Argentina's democratic lesson is enlightening to some of those in Washington who up until now saw a choice only between military dictatorships and Marxist regimes in Latin America. It also will greatly influence its neighbors, Uruguay and Chile, where civilian movements demanding a return to democracy are gaining strength. A decade of military brutality and arrogance is coming to an end. Argentina has shown that South American democratic mechanisms are still working.

Mario Diamant is an Argentine journalist and playwright. He is currently the New York correspondent for the Buenos Aires weekly news magazine, *Siete Días*. He was managing editor of *Jacobo Timerman's* daily newspaper *La Opinión* until it was confiscated by the military government in 1977.

many mobster-style leaders, its lack of internal democracy, the intense rivalry of its diverse factions and the undeniable ineffectiveness of its administrations, workers and "populist" intellectuals remained faithful to the cause. For them, Peronism offered the only possibility of vindication against the systematic betrayal they suffered at the hands of all other political parties and the only alternative for "popular expression."

Since 1930 when the armed forces intervened for the first time in politics, overthrowing President Hipólito Yrigoyen, the Argentinian military has claimed an ever-increasing share of power as self-appointed "saviors of the motherland." Typically, they have portrayed themselves as the "guardians of the Western and Christian civilization"—

a euphemism for anti-Marxism.

Absolute military rule came in with the regime that seized power from the chaotic administration headed by Perón's wife Isabel in 1976. Generals commanded everything vital—from TV and radio stations to the state-controlled corporations. And launching a crusade to wipe out terrorism and subversion, they vested themselves with the right to kidnap and murder thousands of Argentinians. Among the atrocities perpetrated in the name of this "final solution to the problems of terrorism" were torture, rape, thievery and the establishment of "concentration camps" throughout the country.

This state of affairs ended with the Falkland/Malvinas war. The collapse of the military was brought about partly by



## Currents

# China buries its ancient funeral customs

By Zhang Weimin  
Special to WorldPaper

BEIJING—When China's Premier Zhou Enlai died in January 1976, his ashes were scattered in the rivers. The premier—as his last contribution—was pushing for the reform of burial rites, and a growing number of people have been following his example.

Burial was a very serious matter in old China mainly because of the Confucian belief that the body should never be de-

stroyed, and elaborate rites developed over the centuries.

An old person was comforted by the assurance of a proper funeral, and children were considered especially respectful if they procured a good coffin for the parent while the latter was still in good health. Once the parent died, the entire family began a ritualized expression of grief by dressing in sackcloth, letting the hair go unkempt, and wailing. The eldest son dressed the corpse in graveclothes.

Family members and friends came to offer consolation in a prescribed fashion. Professional mourners were engaged to lend volume to the wailing of family members in the funeral procession. Taoist and Buddhist priests played musical instruments and chanted scriptures on behalf of the soul. Eventually, after the coffin had been escorted to the grave, it was interred with many additional rites.

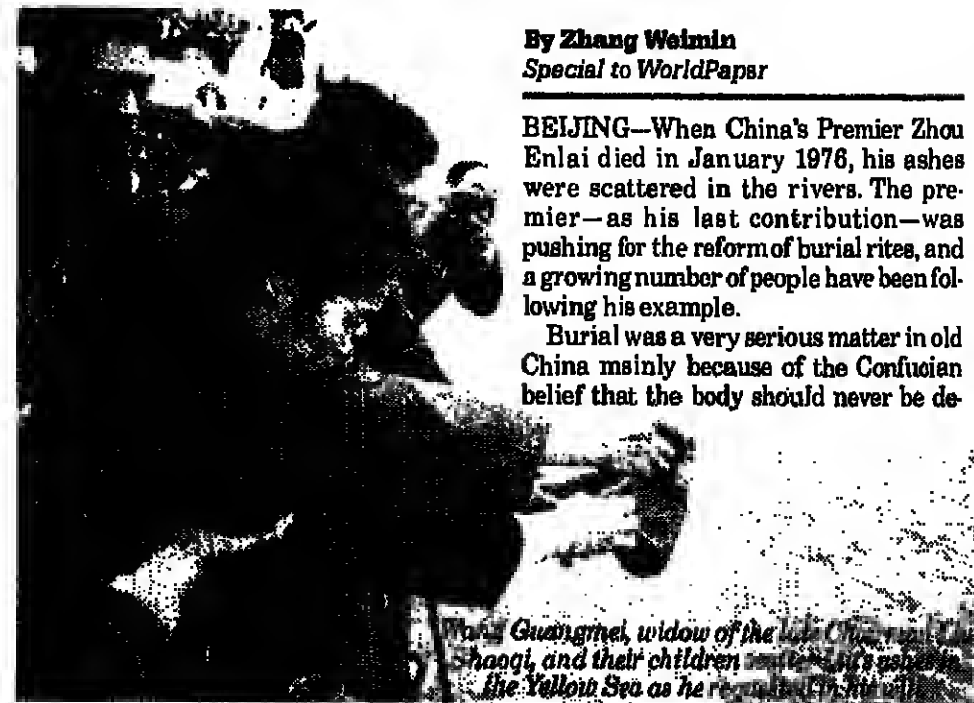
Today, cremation has replaced burial in most cities, with modern funeral rites reduced to paying lost respects and holding a memorial meeting. The Chinese government started to popularize cremation and simplify funeral services in the 1950s.

"To replace burial with cremation is not only important in terms of getting rid of feudal ideas and superstitions, but also necessary to save land and timber," said Fon Bitian, head of the cremation department of the Ministry of Civil Affairs. Mortality is about six million each year. If half of the dead were buried, more than one million cubic meters of timber would be needed and more than 2000 hectares of land occupied.

"We have to practice cremation in cities and in densely populated rural areas. Otherwise the living and the dead will have to scramble for land," said Zhang Yizhi, another official in the Ministry of Civil Affairs.

Cremation has not spread equally to all areas. Since the centuries-long feudal beliefs are deep-rooted in people's minds, efforts to introduce cremation in the rural areas have met with resistance. One brigade leader in Fujian Province said, "To persuade the people to practice cremation and family planning is the most difficult part of my work."

Zhang Weimin is a staff writer for China Features, an official agency.



Wang Guangmei, widow of the late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai, is seen here with her children as they bury the Yellow Sea as he requested.

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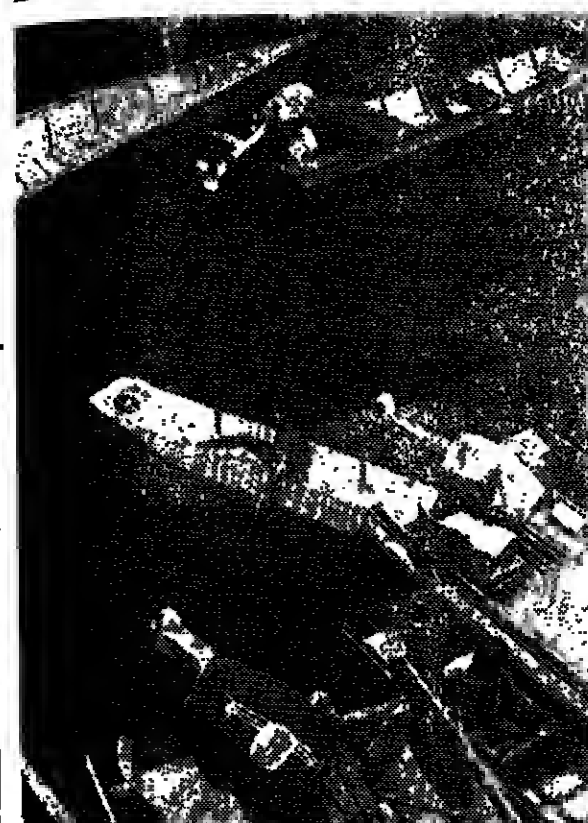
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WorldDiary/Crocker Snow Jr.

# Tropical rains and oil flames in Asia's newest nation



Oilboard taxis at Brunei's water village.

THE newest nation on the political map of the world is a small, jungled wedge of land located on the northwestern side of the island of Borneo, surrounded by the two Malay states of Sabah and Sarawak to the north and south, the Indonesian state of Kalimantan to the east—and bounteous oil and natural gas reserves just offshore. The state of Brunei and its 210,000 people achieve full independence from Britain during the first three months of 1984. The precise date is hard to pinpoint because there are so many varied ceremonies, celebrations and visits of heads of state associated with the affair.

To the first-time visitor, it is the sleepy-rich atmosphere of the country more than its newly independent mood that lingers. Brunei looks much like Malaysia, a tropical land of lush greenery and sudden rains, populated mainly by Malays dressed in sarongs, living in kampongs and worshipping Allah. The equatorial sunsets and towering rain clouds are matched in brilliance by offshore oil-field flares that light up the South China Sea horizon at night.

The dominant feature of Brunei is its energy resources. Oil was discovered in the late 1920s—175,000 barrels are now pumped daily along with the equivalent of 100,000 barrels of natural gas. This has given Brunei, on the eve of independence, cash reserves of almost US\$12 billion, which ranks it third in all of Asia behind only Japan with \$40 billion and Singapore with \$17 billion. It gives the small population of Malays, Chinese and Indians an average per-capita income annually of \$20,000, and such niceties as free graduate education anywhere in the world and interest-free loans.

The novelties or contrasts occasioned by such wealth in such a setting abound. The nation's main town, Bandar Seri Begawan, features a "water village" of ramshackle houses on stilts in the river, a hubbub of waterborne taxis and, on the horizon, a mammoth new palace or "istana" for the sultan with golden domes atop. Rapier missiles underground and an \$800 million price tag in between. Mercedes almost appear to outnumber bicycles.

Brunei, despite its exotic sleepiness, has a distinctly British veneer to it. The British High Commissioner's quarters are symbolically large in size and situation, overlooking the water village in paternalistic fashion much like the new istana. The Winston Churchill museum is another highlight, built by the present sultan's father, a proud anglophile. The only visible military presence is provided by two British Gurkha battalions.

But the British are no longer able to hide the land's lucrative light under the proverbial bushel. For Brunei will join the powerful five-nation ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) with independence, and sport a new regional identity as a result. Two American banks, Citibank and Morgan Guaranty, and Japan's Nomura Securities have recently taken the nation's \$4.5 billion investment portfolio away from British Crown agents

who had held it exclusively for decades. Others are knocking at the door.

The nation is Islamic. The 35-year-old Sultan Muda Hassanal Bolkiah is the undisputed ruler. Considered a shy and withdrawn man, he has begun to flex his muscles on behalf of the Malay population.

The sultan, it appears, is most concerned about his little new nation's security in omnicrimous Asia. Most of his friends, by contrast, are more worried about whether he will use his wealth wisely.

If the obvious comparison of Brunei in size and prosperity is to one of the small oil-rich Gulf states and if the sultan could be compared to one of the Gulf's oil sheiks, curiously many Bruneians chose to identify with a different extreme of the oil world—Texas.

A Texas oil company recently has been given only the second drilling lease in Brunei, breaking the long-held monopoly of Royal Dutch Shell. The American television show "Dallas" is the most popular number on local television, and "JR" Ewing, the show's womanizing tycoon, is the biggest name in town. When a Texas polo team came to Brunei last April as a guest of the polo-playing sultan, they promised that JR would be present for independence. Wishful thinking or not, the average Bruneian, when asked what he's most looking forward to in the lavishly planned celebration, invariably replies, "JR's coming to town."

## Autumn in Japan

Japan has had an interesting autumn, dominated by contradictory moods of self-criticism and self-pride.

First off, in early October came the long-awaited verdict on former Prime Minister Tanaka for his part in accepting payoffs from the Lockheed aircraft corporation in 1974. He was found guilty, given a \$2 million fine and sentenced to four years in prison, and has since, while appealing, refused to resign from the Diet or retire from the political stage. This reminder of the magnitude of the money game in Japanese politics was a resounding embarrassment for the face-conscious nation.

But in the next month, November, came three successive visits by three formidable heads of state, first West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, then US President Ronald Reagan and finally Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang. All three came to Tokyo, all addressed the Diet, and all left most Japanese smiling about their ever-more important place in the world.

The October and November affairs have been large happenings in the Japanese consciousness. And they're not unrelated. The nation's forceful Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, who has been in office for only a year and got in as a result of Tanaka's backing, successfully stage-managed the visits to deflect public attention from the embarrassing domestic scene.

The tactic worked to a fare-thee-well. The visits have



Opening up Japan's Nakasone is politicking with world leaders as he does here with the country's youth.

fixed Japan's gaze on a larger world. They have given Japan a fresh world consciousness at a time when Nakasone himself is encouraging a greater defense role. And they have obscured not only the Lockheed scandal but the enduring trade frictions with the US, based on Japan's \$12 billion trade surplus in a two-way trade that totals an incredible \$60 billion a year.

Nakasone, who is clearly the country's most high-profile prime minister in recent years, has awakened in Japan long-dormant desires to be more of a world presence. As one Tokyo acquaintance put it, speaking in the metaphor with which the Japanese are so fond, "He's the first Japanese prime minister ever to appear twice on the front page of the New York Times in one week. And he was walking and talking us unequal with the president."

Nakasone has done more than this. Any guilt-by-association with Tanaka has, for the time being, been obscured by the status-by-association with Kohl, Reagan and Zhao. In so doing he may have set himself and his party up nicely for national elections in Japan in the near future.

## Talking heads

A recent journey from the Arab Middle East to the American Far West was a welcome reminder of the memorable song from the musical "Godspell": "What a piece of work is man," and of the fine line between what is tragedy and what is farce.

In Cairo, the Singaporean ambassador to Egypt, Chang Keng Howe, feels jinxed these days. He says he has presented his credentials as ambassador on three occasions in three different countries: first in Phnom Penh, Kampuchea, to Norodom Sihanouk shortly before he was deposed, next in Wellington, New Zealand, to Prime Minister Norman Kirk shortly before his death in office by heart attack, and finally in Cairo to Anwar Sadat shortly before his assassination. "I'm Asian and I'm superstitious. I feel like a bad omen," Ambassador Howe confesses. "I may not accept any more assignments."

In Singapore, Woo Huey-Fong, who got her law degree in Britain, has just returned to her bar exams and is about to embark on her first job. But she is thinking as much about Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's recent speech on birth statistics as about her own upcoming litigation work. In a national day speech, Lee highlighted a strong tendency in Singapore for the most educated women to have the fewest number of babies and the dire long-term consequences of this. "Sure it's a very controversial and personal thing, and many people might wonder about him raising it as a matter of state," says Woo Huey-Fong. "But I think he's right and I'm glad he's raised it. I've always wanted to have more than two children. Now I can do so in good conscience, and I'll probably get a tax break as well."

In Bangkok, a Mr. Singh, an Indian internee during the Japanese occupation of Singapore, is recalling the rough days. "We were treated poorly, and we had to be very careful. Of course we were happy when the Japanese were defeated," he remarks. Then, warning up, "But still they taught us something very important, that the West was not invincible, and the white man not supreme. This had never occurred to us Asians before. And it has stayed with us ever since."

## The wings of man

Today, we are told, is the age of electronics, the era of the computer, the epoch of electronic communications and "information systems." The chorus about this is almost deafening. This contrary soul is delighted to report that there remain some jungle telegraph-types exceptions to the rule.

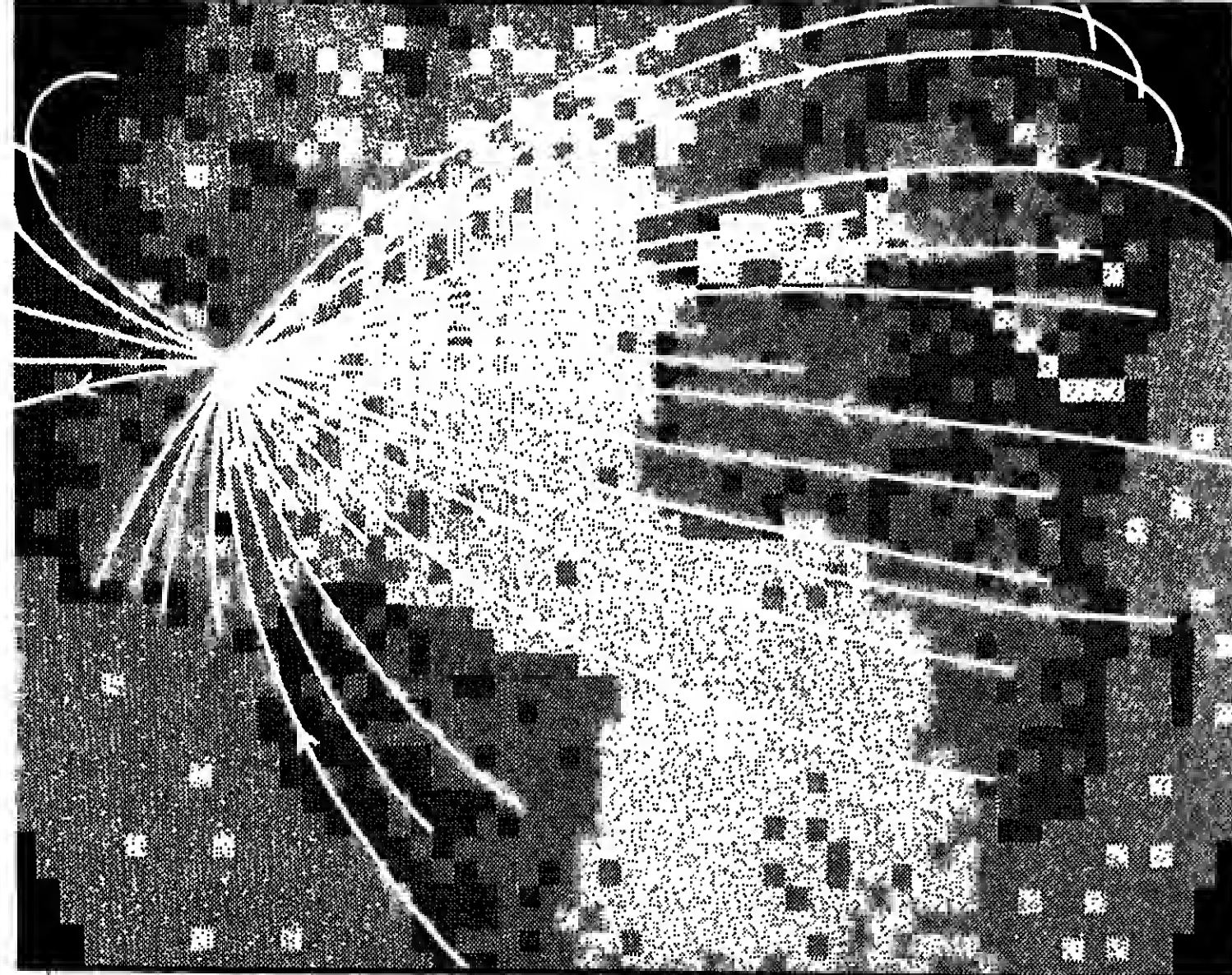
A clip in a French newsletter relates that carrier pigeons have been introduced by a hospital in Normandy to carry blood samples in a test tube to a laboratory 18 miles away. The birdmaster, one Dr. Yvon Le Haout, reports that the delivery takes 15 minutes and is quicker and more reliable than ever before. He's so happy with the system that he's trying to expand it to a number of hospitals in the region. And he's so happy with his pigeons that he gives them a day off after each flight.

Forsooth, it isn't only the French. A UPI story last summer told of the Lockheed aircraft company in California using carrier pigeons to transport some graphic designs over 30 miles between two of its facilities in a mountainous part of California. The high-tech aircraft company apparently has a computer link between the two plants. But because of the expense, the computers are used only as a backup—if there are any problems with the pigeons.



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## Artist shows ceramics of highest standard

By Vanessa Batrouni  
Special to the Star

A REMARKABLE display of thoughtful and restrained ceramics that combine beauty, function and craftsmanship can currently be seen at the British Council.

Najwa Ziyad Annab is a relative newcomer to the Jordanian artistic scene. She has exhibited only once before, in a group exhibition at the Sports City in 1981 but she already possesses a mature and distinct style coupled with a professional handling of her material.

After graduating from the Al-Fayyaz School here in Amman she took a Foundation course in art at Hastings College in the United Kingdom. At the time she was interested in fashion design but did not really know which area of art to pursue. It was there that Najwa was directed into ceramics and so proceeded to a B.A. degree in three dimensional design at the West Surrey College of Art and Design.

Her work on show falls into two periods, those she produced while at college in England and those she created on her return to Jordan.

Her initial attraction to large basic shapes, earthy colours and primitive designs carries on through to her present style. Square tray dishes, shallow bowls, cylindrical vases and her more recent oval vessels belie subtle proportional properties by their simplicity. Subdued matt finishes and free mixed desert colours of earlier pieces not only enhance negative and positive spatial areas but also remind us of the natural coarse grain of the elay.

On her return to Jordan Najwa abandoned colour all together. She had always used gas kilns in England and was unable to achieve the desired effect with an electric kiln and the available glazes. Dismissing bright glossy products in preference for quieter ware she returned to burnishing clay with a silver spoon that gives rise to a smooth polished surface while retaining the colour of the local clay. For visual variation she smokes some pieces over burning newspapers and later oils them or paints sections of her tubular vases with bands of copper effecting an attractive marriage of two materials similar in appearance to faced leather ware.

A harmonious totality is the most striking feature of her work for nothing jars the eye. Flowing curvaceous shapes, tall cylinders, deeply scooped bowls, decorative balls and moulded shallow dishes, all hand built, are complemented by linear intaglio designs.

In sympathy with the primitive art of North and South American Indians and influenced by the fine detail of Islamic masterpieces, she etches her surfaces in symmetrical, grid-like patterns and elastic curves. The elemental network of diamonds, circles and squares some crowded with decorative detail balance the bare areas inside and out, while scalloped, peaked and flanged rims are her only execution into anything playful.

Aesthetic, useful and carefully manipulated her collection is a fine example of captured force and controlled beauty. There is no evidence of a reluctant material pushed around into uneasy relations or excessive decoration.

tion springing from an undisciplined imagination.

Selective, and weary of over indulgence, Najwa has stripped her ceramic work back to basics and allied the beauty of the primitive with an accomplished technique. Wishing too not to be elitist and wanting all people to enjoy her work, her prices were reasonable and all items were sold.

Also in Amman this week is a mammoth exhibition of the "Orientalists" at the Alia Art Gallery which has been extended to the end of the month and a display of work by talented student artists from the Fine Arts Institute at the Royal Cultural Centre.

The students have obviously been put through their artistic

paces. On show there are copies of famous masterpieces, studies of bone structures, models and still life, pencilled figure drawings and portraits, oil paintings in related colours and colour scales brushed and layed down with the palate knife sgraffito and water colours.

Although the students have not yet flexed their full artistic powers or imagination, ability and sensitivity can be discerned in the work of fourteen year old Nidal Abu Dayyeh, Nasel Odeh, Abdel Jabbar, Abdel Hamid Rahid and Mikarrem Rifai, and we can look forward to the development of these artists as they explore and extend their capabilities. Unfortunately the Fine Arts Institute is now faced with closure because of financial problems.

## A week of music



Pianist Wolfram Lorenzen

The Royal Cultural Centre will be home to a varied programme of music this week.

Gifted German pianist Wolfram Lorenzen starts the week with two different programmes of Romantic and Classical music on 15 and 17 December.

His Thursday concert will include works by Mozart, Chopin, Schumann and Schubert while on Saturday you will have the chance to hear Bach, Schumann, Beethoven, Brahms, Handel and Liszt.

Jordanian musicians "The Huds and Malik Madi" will be presenting three evenings of song and music in the Studio Theatre at the Cultural Centre on 17, 18 and 19 December.

And to a finish up the week, Spanish guitarist Victor Monge will give two flamenco recitals, on Tuesday 20 and Wednesday 21 December.

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India's Green Revolution has meant more farm machines and thousands more malnourished and crippled farm workers each year.

## The carnage of the Green Revolution

By Radhakrishna Rao  
INDIA'S Green Revolution, which has so spectacularly increased wheat yields, is having a grisly side-effect. It maims and cripples thousands of people each year.

The use of the high-yielding wheat varieties is centred in the wealthier northern Indian states

of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, where there is a shortage of agricultural labour. This shortage has attracted workers from poorer states such as Bihar, in India's northwest.

It has also opened a vast market for farm machinery, especially mechanical threshers to take over the labour-intensive job of separating the grain from the straw or husk. Today, there are thought to be some eight million threshing machines in India, from the hand-operated to the latest mechanised models. According to a study by the Agricultural Ministry, another 50,000 are being added to that total yearly.

The increasing numbers of threshers have led to an increasing number of accidents involving

these machines, up from only 500 in 1975 to 5,000 in 1980. During the past 12 years, about 10,000 farm workers have been incapacitated while threshing.

During the most recent wheat harvest, some 1,000 labourers were maimed, compared with 900 last year.

In England recently a farm worker's arm was cut off by a baling machine. He carried his arm into a hospital and doctors sewed it back on. The state paid the bill. But India and other developing countries lack both the rural health system and the insurance programme to cope with such accidents.

Indian national and state laws require farmers to insure their workers against such accidents. But this is rarely done. The Biharis are largely illiterate, and farm owners can usually buy off a maimed worker with a few rupees "compensation". Migrant workers have little political power.

Many workers are permanently crippled. Gaya Lal was once considered the most able man in his village in Bihar. Last year, a thresher took off his left arm. But he was lucky to survive; many of the victims die from loss of blood from wounds that would not otherwise have been fatal.

The demand for threshers has led village blacksmiths and small town artisans in India's wheat bowl to produce their own backyard varieties, which find a ready market.

These substandard machines are responsible for 50 per cent of all thresher accidents, according to a study by Haryana Agricultural University. Few of these machines have the 90-centimetre (35-inch) feeding system designed to take wheat into the machine and keep hands and arms out. A study by the Punjab Agricultural Department found that 95 per cent of all thresher accidents happen while crops are being fed into the machines.

By leaving off protective gear, the manufacturers save steel metal. So the covers of the feeding areas on the backstreet machines are usually inadequate.

Human factors cause their share of the carnage. A recent field study by Punjab University found that fatigue was responsible for about 40 per cent of farm accidents.

Landowners hire the labourers for only a short harvest season and are anxious to get the work over before the rains begin. The workers want to earn as much as they can, so are eager to work around the clock. To help them work, the landowners often supply them with drugs such as hemp or with alcohol; this practice increases accidents.

Poor lighting was cited as the cause of 9 per cent of all mishaps. Labourers are often required to work through the night to get the harvest in.

Alarmed at the rising number of Green Revolution casualties, the Agricultural Ministry has brought out a series of stringent laws aimed at banning the substandard threshers. But the badly built machines are in great demand and are likely to remain so, taking their toll among workers as they process India's harvest.

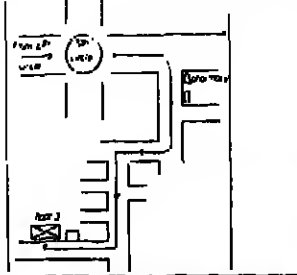
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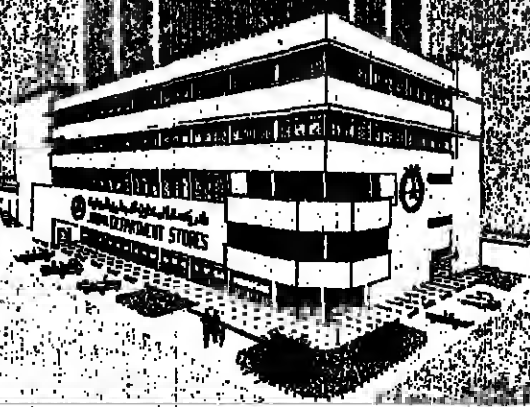


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## A woman of the law sees many changes

By Kathy Kakish  
Star Staff Writer

The first time should be the hardest, but for Ayshah Atiyah, being Jordan's second woman lawyer was not an easy matter either.

When Ayshah entered the legal profession in 1970 she found that her family, her colleagues and her clients all had difficulties to accepting her.

Her father and her close relatives did not like the idea of her going into the court. However it was Ayshah's father who encouraged her to study law in the first place because his sons had chosen other fields. When he saw how determined Ayshah was to continue, he finally adjusted himself to the idea and soon began to hand his own legal matters over to her.

On the other side of the story were Ayshah's colleagues. They found it quite difficult to accept her as "one of them". Ayshah says she heard many rude remarks, which she ignored but which made her even more determined to succeed.

"Many of my colleagues also advised me to forget that I am a woman while on the job," she says. "But I am a woman and I made sure that they would not forget it. That is why I had my hair done and my makeup perfect whenever I had to attend the court hearings," she says.

Another problem was that clients were not used to the idea of a woman lawyer. During her training period, Ayshah was once told to listen to a witness. When she requested him to begin, he asked where the lawyer was. "When I told him that I was the lawyer, he gasped and said 'You're-the-lawyer!'" pointing his finger up and down at me," says Ayshah.

"At times like those, I used to go home and cry," she says "but I have never cried or lost my temper during my work."

The only encouragement Ayshah received was from the judges, she says. "Every single judge I met encouraged me in those days."

After this difficult beginning Ayshah and her husband moved to Abu Dhabi. During the 10 years she spent there, Ayshah held a job in the Department of Interpretation and Legislation at the Ministry of Labour. She was also the director of the Jordanian Women's Society, through which the Jordanian women have kept in touch with each other as well as participating in activities such as holding bazaars and gathering donations for the needy families in Jordan.

### Surprises

When she returned to Jordan two years ago, Ayshah was surprised to see the social changes that had occurred in Jordan during her absence.

"The types of cases that pass through the courts today are in their subjects similar to those of a decade ago, but the way people perceive and understand them has changed since then," she says.

She said that she can remember the time when in case of

money disputes, lenders were keen on receiving the full amount of the loan at once. Now they will take back the amount of money in instalments, often over a long period of time.

What struck Ayshah most was weakening of family ties. Not so much in the immediate family but on the wider "clan" level.

Ayshah also feels that most people have become quite mat-



Ayshah Atiyah

erIALIZED to the point where they only care about the amount of money they make. "It could have been the same twelve years ago but then it was not so obvious," she says. Ayshah thinks that this is most likely due to the rapid technical development and the increasingly high standard of living in Jordan.

### Marriage

She can see changes in the institution of marriage and in the situation of women in general. She feels that marriage is no longer regarded as the holy bond it used to be. "Now, it is like taking on a business partner. If the partner becomes no longer suitable, he or she easily becomes an ex-partner," she comments.

In addition to that, wives, especially those who hold jobs, can no longer carry the burden of the usual everyday problems and disputes as they did a few years back. As working women's responsibilities have increased, their trying to be housewife, mother and wife as well as an employee all rolled into one. This is very tiring especially when most husbands are unwilling to share any of the household responsibilities. "This is why women now do not hesitate to raise a case over any problem, no matter how minor it may be," she says.

Parents also have been part of bringing about this change as they now tend less to force their daughters to keep silent and bear their problems on their own. She has noticed that number of parents are starting to get used to the idea that their daughters are free where their personal lives, and especially marriage, concerned, and thus, they let them do what they feel is right.

Regardless of such changes that have occurred, especially those concerning women, Ay-

shah believes that many women still fail to demand their legal rights. According to Ayshah, the Jordanian Civil Status Law, which is based on the doctrine of the Holy Quran, and deals basically with the family in such matters as marriage, inheritance, divorce, alimony and child custody gives women all their rights.

Women have the freedom to not only choose their own husbands and to set down the conditions they want for the way their future marriage is to be — and if these conditions are agreed upon, husbands are obliged by law to abide to them. A woman may specify that her husband-to-be may not divorce her without her consent, that he may not marry a second wife as long as he is married to her, that he must provide her with a maid, and he may not insist that she leave the country and reside abroad.

The law also gives women the right to deal with their own private income in the way they wish without the consultation of or interference of their husbands.

### Ignorance

"But people are closing their eyes to the fact that these laws do exist. It seems that it is for the benefit of husbands not to admit them," says Ayshah.

On women's part, there are several reasons why they hesitate to ask for their rights. Some are ignorant of the law, others are aware of their rights, but are hindered either by the fear that they could ruin their marriage or from pressure from social traditions that consider court action a scandal.

In order to increase women's awareness of their rights, the Business Women's Club, of which Ayshah is a member, is planning to invite judges and religious men to speak at a series of programmes to be held throughout Jordan.

In her court work Ayshah says she is willing to take up any type of case with the exception cases of rape and impotence. She says they are both embarrassing and extremely difficult to prove.

In fact women often fail to report such cases out of embarrassment or the fear of public shame. If rape cases are reported it is usually a long time after the event and evidence is even more difficult to obtain.

Ayshah has been fortunate as her husband has encouraged her to continue with her work. Now the mother of five, among whom is a set of eight year old triplets, Ayshah has scheduled her time to spend plenty of time with her children.

She says "Being a lawyer depends on intelligence as well as a strong memory, for there are times when one has to recall at the moment, something read years ago." But Ayshah believes that it is a wonderful occupation through which one gets a wide experience in life and develops a stronger personality. She adds that women can do the job as well as men and she encourages those women interested in the law to go ahead and study it.



## Done your shopping?

CHRISTMAS IS nearing and if some of us haven't finished our shopping, we'd better get at it before it is too late. And if you are one of those industrious souls who like to make some of the gifts for your loved ones, be sure that your projects are simple ones that can be completed in a minimum of time... or leave it until next year with the sincere resolution to begin earlier then.

Or plan to complete it and give it as a birthday present instead... unless you are knitting a pair of wool socks and that person's birthday is in July.

Actually there is no need to panic because the shops are full of all sorts of gifts, toys and clothing so you have a wide range of items from which to select. Of course, the most difficult part of gift-shopping is trying to decide what each person wants or needs and their special tastes in colour, design and other preferences.

We have to be on the watch not to fall into the old trap of buying something that we really want for ourselves but think is too extravagant or unnecessary. So we buy it for a friend and excuse ourselves for doing it. We have partially satisfied our own wish by purchasing the desired item but then we pardon ourselves because we didn't keep the thing but selflessly gave it to our friend.

Shopping for children's toys takes up a good portion of our time. We used to say that the shops downtown were less expensive than places out in the suburbs but this isn't so true anymore. I suggest that you put on a pair of comfortable shoes and do your legwork covering the "bookstores" in several areas. Perhaps you could hone up your bargaining abilities at the same time, especially if you'd like to buy several things from the same place.

Look carefully through the merchandise available in any one shop. Recently I entered a store that was packed floor to ceiling with shelves burdened to their ultimate capacity with every variety of children's toys. I browsed around until I found a nice table tennis set for the reasonable price of JD 3.

I wanted a second gift so I ventured through the maze of merchandise pyramided at the bases of these shelves and finally located another stack of like-looking boxes. Ho, what was that? Another lot of table tennis sets! What was the difference between those and the set I had grasped in my hand... absolutely none, except that these were marked JD 3.500. I think that the merchant had stocked his place so well that somewhere along the line he had forgotten what he actually had in there.

Household furnishings vary widely in their price ranges so be sure to do your legwork if you are considering this type of purchase. I've seen light fixtures that sold for over JD 500 for karat gold plating and real crystal to attractively designed chandeliers for JD 35. Desk prices start at JD 70 and go on up to whatever you are willing to put out, bookshelves beginning at JD 30 and rising.

So, take your time and browse around.

## Would you believe it?

A NUCLEAR power plant in Southern India has been forced to close because hundreds of jelly fish have blocked pipes bringing coolant from the sea.

The fish, which had appeared in unusually large numbers after the onset of the North-East monsoon, had been sucked into a tunnel providing sea water to cool the reactor at Kalpakkam, near the South Indian city of Madras.

The shutdown interrupted tests on the plant which was commissioned in July and is due to start providing commercial power by the end of the year.

SURGEONS at Feyyum General hospital in Egypt have removed what they think might be the world's largest gallstone, weighing 650 grammes.

Ali Abdul Azim, a departmental head at the hospital said that text books suggested the top weight for a gall stone was around 300 grammes.

"The strange thing about this case is that the patient, aged 48, did not feel pain or any other symptoms," Azim said, adding the stone was spotted during a routine X-ray and removed by forceps.



# 'Orientalists' draw a keen response

The Alia Art Gallery's exhibition of Orientalist paintings has been drawing such response that the exhibition will be extended until the end of December.

But the owner of the paintings Mr. Ghassan Al-Ashkar says "even though the exhibition has been well received, Jordanians seem to be more interested in looking than in buying."

The people who are buying are mostly Lebanese and foreigners. "There is still not enough awareness, or a true appreciation for art in Jordan, even as an investment for the future," says Mr. Ashkar.

The 165 paintings on show belong to the period from 1750-1920. Mr. Al-Ashkar says that "the paintings of such famous Orientalist painters as Lewis and Carl Haag, captured every aspect of Middle Eastern life during the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries."



Minister of Culture and Youth Mr. Ghassan Al-Ashkar at the exhibition opening.

He points out that the Orientalist painters' depiction of life in the Middle East was totally different from that of the orient-

alist writers. "Despite the fact that Orientalism is actually an extension of imperialism, the Orientalist painters' reaction to, and relationship with the Eastern natives was very positive and sincere," says Mr. Ashkar.

The value of Orientalist art, Mr. Ashkar adds, does not only lie in its beautiful translation of life in the Middle East, but also, "in its topographical presentation of places, houses and streets that no longer exist in the memory of the contemporary man."

And what will he do with paintings unsold by the end of December? Mr. Al-Ashkar says he will take them back to London for another exhibition there.

And Mr. Al-Ashkar's sister, actress Nidal Ashkar is also in the news. Nidal has returned to Jordan after a month long trip that took included visits to Tunisia and Greece.

Highlight of the trip for Nidal was her participation in the first "Tunis Carthage Theatre Festival" where she received a "medallion of honour" for her good performances and distinguished personality. Abdullah Gelth of Egypt also received this award.

Special awards were also given to some of leading actors of the older generation including Mustafa Kateb of Algeria and Amr Risk of Egypt.

During the festival Nidal participated in seminars which she



Nidal Ashkar

says, explored the present bad condition of the Arab theatre.

She was also a member of the International Jury which judged the local plays presented during the festival, took part in public lectures and gave special training classes for the Higher Academy for Theatrical Arts.

After that very busy 15 days Nidal went on to Greece where she played a guest role in the Jordanian television series "Wa Tnood Al Kuds" (The return of Jerusalem) which is being filmed in Athens.

The New British consul, Miss Janet James, has taken up her post at the British Embassy in Amman. She arrived here from London, where she served at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Before that, Miss James, served at the British Embassy in Khartoum and spent a short period at the British Embassy in Cairo.

The Amra Hotel is the centre of attraction for a lot of Jordanian ladies this week. The reason is that it is host to a rather special fur exhibition.

The furs come from the Greek island of Rhodes and were designed by noted Greek designers Marco and George. They say that there are no two pieces alike in 152 piece collection.

Marco told The Star that he and George brought their collection to Amman at the invitation of some Jordanian friends.

Their main aim is to introduce Jordanians to the 500 year history of Rhodes as a centre of fur production and they have kept the fur prices the same as those at home.

Among the ladies who have visited the exhibition so far are Mrs. Tawfiq Marrar, Mrs. Salim Rizk, Mrs. Ella Attallah and Mrs. Wadi' Halasah.

One visitor, Miss Saad Fadil, a former Lebanese Miss Elegance, was very impressed with the fur shows and said she was definitely going to encourage her friends to come along. She said the prices were very reasonable and compare well with those in Europe. The exhibition will continue until 19 December.

## Photographers respond to remote worlds

Travel in remote and exotic places seems to stimulate a passion for photography in many people. Two such people are Ms. Janet Goldsworthy-Higgs whose photography exhibitions are being held respectively at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel until 18 December and until 19 December at the Alia Gallery.

Ms. Gold first developed an interest in photography in 1966 when she was working as a nursing consultant in Kenya. Since then, she has worked in Ethiopia, North Yemen, Egypt and is now working in Jordan. She travelled extensively in the rural areas, and lived with their inhabitants. Her photographs present a detailed account of the daily lives of the people, portraying sensitively the working woman and her child.

Mr. Goldsworthy-Higgs' interest in photography, on the other hand, began while he was working as an aerodynamics mechanic on the Island of Masuloff off the coast of Oman, with the Royal Air Force. He has since been to South America, the



James Goldsworthy-Higgs

US, Canada and Hong Kong, with his camera capturing the different places and peoples of those areas. Mr. Goldsworthy-Higgs, who is currently representing an aerodynamic manufacturer in Jordan, says that "other than his historical worth, Jordan has a clear and bright light and that is fascinating to the photographer's eye."



'Agaba, Palm' by James Goldsworthy-Higgs

## A Lebanese touch!

It seems The Jerusalem Star ruffled a lot of Lebanese feathers last week with its suggestion that hairdresser George Sarkis added a Jordanian touch to the Miss World competition. George, of course, Lebanese and the proud residents of Jounieh consider him to be one of their most successful sons.

To advertise in this space call 667177, 8, 9.

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- 5- Munir Sikhian Company Ltd.
- 6- Al Arab Marketing and Trading Company
- 7- Ima'at Asfour and Co.
- 8- Al Shama Trading Company and Sami Kar-4-ashah al-olias
- 9- Hanjeh Trading Establishment
- 10- Nabilah Trading Establishment
- 11- Modern Jordanian Technology for Electronics Establishment (Jamit) (Redotin)

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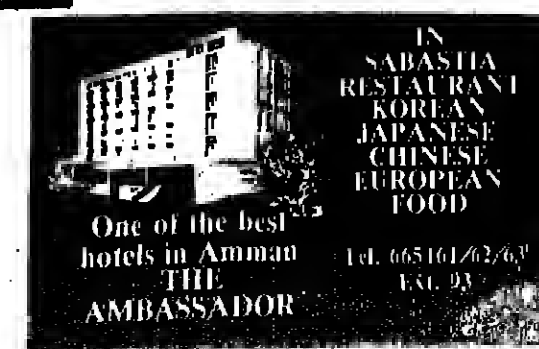
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Happy New Year

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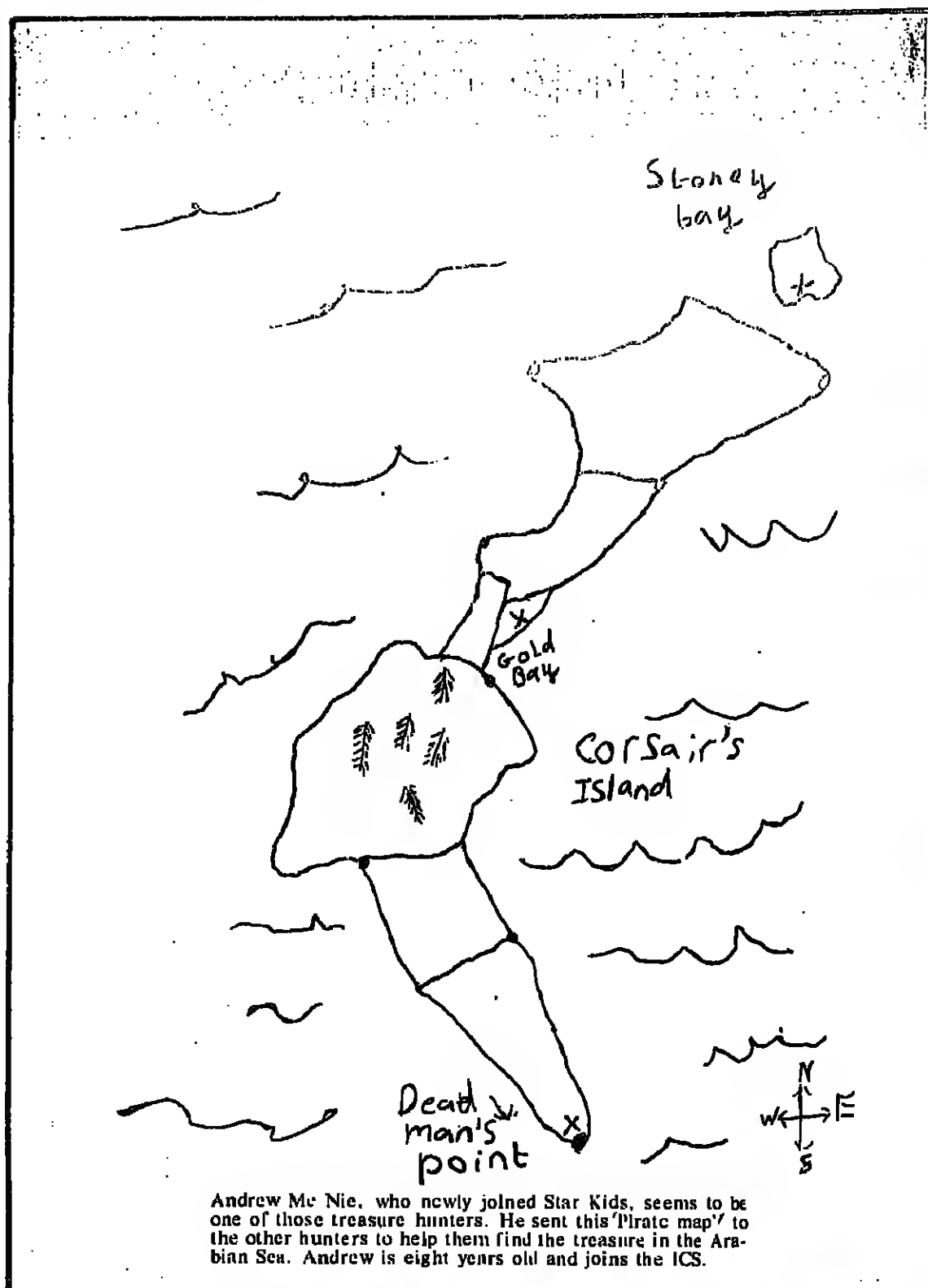
You are cordially invited to  
A Photo Exhibit by  
James Goldsworthy-Higgs

On 14th December, 1983, Wednesday 5 p.m.  
at Alia Art Gallery - Shmeisam.

Exhibition will run through December 18th, 1983.

Daily from 10 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. & 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Alia Art Gallery - Shmeisam - Tel: 662181





Andrew Mc Nie, who newly joined Star Kids, seems to be one of those treasure hunters. He sent this 'Pirate map' to the other hunters to help them find the treasure in the Arabian Sea. Andrew is eight years old and joins the ICS.

# ODDITIES



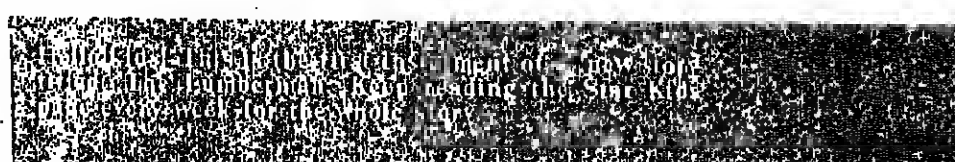
Lake Michigan during a severe winter.

## Why lakes never freeze solid?

FISH have every reason to be grateful for one peculiarity of water. Most liquids expand progressively as they are heated, as the mercury of a thermometer bulb expands when the thermometer is placed in the mouth. Water is an exception. If water is slowly heated, starting from 0 degree Centigrade, the freezing point of water, it starts by contracting. At 4 degrees Centigrade, water is at its heaviest, and only after that does it begin to expand. In cold weather fishes owe their lives to this peculiarity.

In the ordinary way warm water is lighter than cold and tends to rise to the surface. But water on the point of freezing is lighter than water at 4 degrees. The result is that, as a lake is cooled in a cold spell, the coldest water rises to the surface. As ice is also lighter than water, this also remains on the surface. Taken together, these arrangements effectively prevent even cooling through the whole depth of the water.

It is, therefore, rare for even a pond to freeze entirely solid, while lakes never do so. This is only one of many ways in which the physical properties of water seem to have been almost deliberately designed to help life as much as possible. It is no accident that we and all living things are largely made of it.



## The Lumberman

By Hamdan Al-Haj  
Star Staff Writer

ONCE UPON a time, a lumberman called Lutfi was living quite happily with his wife and seven children on the outskirts of a huge forest. All the men and women of the village respected Lutfi and his family because they were very friendly devoted and kind-hearted.

Lutfi was poor, but content with his life. Early every morning, Lutfi would have his breakfast, then carry his ropes and pick and head towards the forest to gather wood to chop and then sell to the neighbouring villages and towns so that he could provide his family with food, clothes and school books.

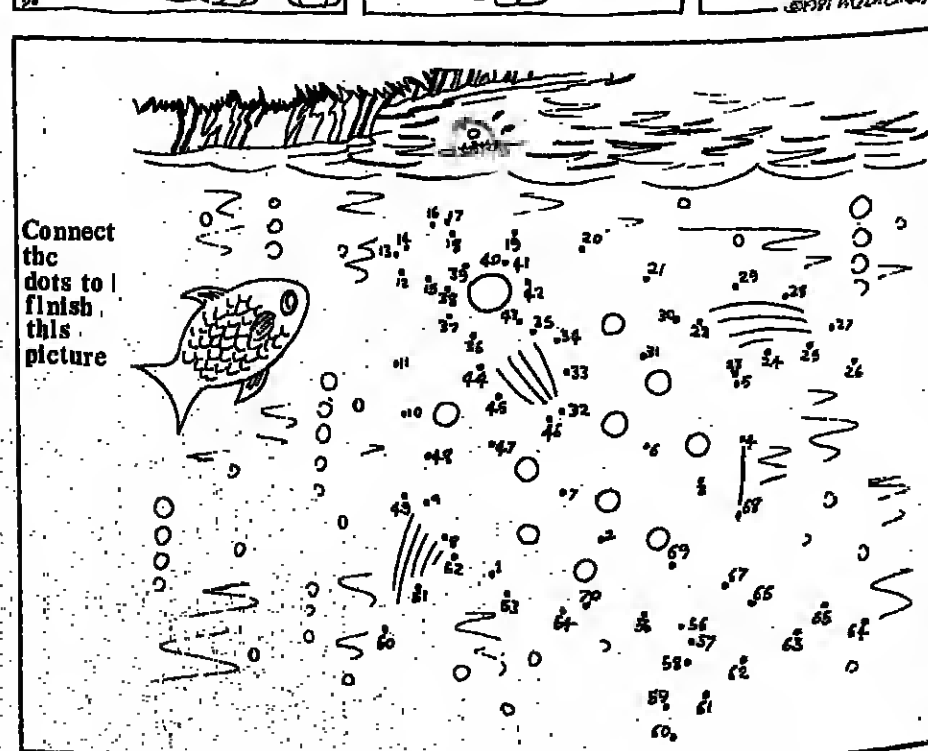
One day at dawn, as Lutfi was walking down the road he usually took to the forest, he decided he should change the place he used to gather wood from, because he thought that other places would have more and better wood. He was pleased with the idea that he might be able to get more money out of the better wood and thus, surprise his children with

presents and other items he could not have afforded before.

As he passed by the old forest, he was deep in thought. He imagined himself sitting among his children saying to each of them: "You Mustafa, I will buy you a thick jacket to protect you from the coming winter, and you, Khaled, my oldest son be more patient, for I will provide you with the necessary clothes so that you would not feel less than your classmates in your old clothes. And you Ahmad, my youngest, I will bring you a bicycle I hope you will be generous enough to share with your brothers and friends...."

Lutfi was excited with his ideas to improve his family's standard of living to be equal to the others. Although there were no social differences in his village, he still felt his family should be provided with things other children in the village had.

to be continued next week.



By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 15 December, 1983

### CAPRICORN — December 21st to January 19th



A recent disappointment which you may have experienced could be more than made up for you this coming week, by a member of the opposite sex giving you a surprise outing. A close person who has been a very strong bolster for you may seek advice from you during this coming week, and the fact that you are able to help them should delight you. Travel appears to be quite prominent.

### AQUARIUS — January 20th to February 18th



Your own feelings regarding a romance will be very correct this coming week, so do not allow a colleague to influence you otherwise. You appear to have an extremely happy week ahead of you, for you should be able to gain co-operation from those who are around you, and in consequence, be able to at last settle a home arrangement. You could receive an increase financially.

### PISCES — February 19th to March 20th



The highlight of your coming week appears to be that a member of the opposite sex lets you know that they think more of you than you had imagined. It is the leisure hours which will bring you unexpected pleasure during this coming week, but do not expect anything outstanding during the work period. This is a week where you are going to find yourself very much on the listening end regarding a close person around you.

### ARIES — March 21st to April 20th



You should be thrilled by the introduction you will have to somebody for whom you hold great respect, and this could prove with time, to be very close friendship. Just as long as you try to remember a promise you have made to a loved one, then all should go well for you. In the domestic field, go ahead firmly with arrangements that you have made, and do not allow anyone to change them.

### TAURUS — April 21st to May 20th



By giving more encouragement to someone close to you this week, you should find that it brings you even closer together than before. Some arrangements which you may have made for the coming week may have to undergo slight last minute changes, but this should turn out to be much more enjoyable than your previous plans were. Your financial position should improve quite a bit now.

### GEMINI — May 21st to June 20th



A close relative could, in a dogmatic way, but quite wrongly, make you feel that your opinion regarding a plan of yours is wrong, some time during this week. You would be well advised to ignore them and carry on with it. You should find yourself feeling more confident about things during this week, owing to the meeting up with a member of the opposite sex, then you have done for some time past.

### Thursday 15 December

Birthday Greetings to You. You have quite a remarkable year ahead of you. There is every sign that you will travel during the coming spring, and through an introduction, will meet a person who will have a considerable influence on your life.

A plan which you have been working on over the last few months should meet with success throughout the coming twelve months, and in turn will bring you financial rewards.

Your love life could be just a little tempestuous around the April period, but if you make use of that little thing called "luck", affairs should sort themselves out happily. Where your working life is concerned, promotion is indicated, and by the August period, you should be able to slack off a little.

### Friday 16 December

Birthday Greetings to You. There appears to be a lot of brightness around you this year. Most of the time, you should be feeling quite cheerful and will want to make an extra effort to be nice to someone who may have been irritating you over the past few months.

During the March period, there could be a rather unpleasant atmosphere at work, possibly caused through some jealousy. If you can ignore this at that time, it should soon pass. In your home, changes which you may have had in mind for some time past, should come about, and prove to be very popular with members of your family.

By April, you should receive news which should enable you to solve some financial problems, and this in turn should give you peace of mind.

### Saturday 17 December

Birthday Greetings to You. You can look forward to a very balanced year, and where your finances are concerned, a little extra profit appears to be coming your way. During the March and April, you could make improvements to your home, with little opposition, which should please you and someone close to you.

The eligible ones amongst you, during the June period, should show your feelings clearly in a romantic direction, because by doing so, you could make marked progress.

In your working life, you should be a little more determined and firm in your attitude, because this should bring about a happy advantage for you. During the April period, someone close to you may not be able to fall in with an arrangement of yours, but remember, this will not be worth a quarrel.

### CANCER — June 21st to July 21st

Your opposite number may complain about your generosity, and in consequence, appear to be a little on the mean side, but they have their eye quite rightly on the future. You may find that a rather affectionate person who is close to you will get a little excited and unconsciously snappy because they have a lot to do. Try to take things calmly. You would do well to watch your finances this week.

### LEO — July 22nd to August 21st

You should be able to make much better progress in the social field this week, but firstly, you may find that you have to terminate a friendship that has not been all that satisfactory for you. At home, all appears to run along very smoothly. You could find yourself splitting your week with little journeys here and there, all of which should prove to be very entertaining and not all that expensive.

### VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st

The indications are that you may have been having some doubts just recently about a person who means a lot to you, but the fact that you should be seeing much more of this person now should do much to dispel any fears. Your week is so full, especially in the social field, and you should be able to exercise all your abilities and initiative to its fullest. You should be able to make up a small quarrel you have recently had with a loved one.

### LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd

Do not allow yourself to be rushed into a hurried decision where romance is concerned this week. You would do well to think it over first, or you may regret it later. Where your working life is concerned, you could receive unexpected help from an influential person who will be enthusiastic about an idea you have for a new way of doing a particular job of work. You have a busy week in the social field.

### SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st

Where your personal life is concerned, a member of the opposite sex who holds a very high place in your opinion should meet with success in a new venture, and this will delight you. You could find that you will irritate other people around you if you try to be over-dogmatic when it comes to the preparation for a very near future holiday. Finances should be much improved now.

### SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th

A celebration outing which has all the indications of a very great success, should prove to be the highlight of your coming week. You appear to be surrounded by a great deal of happiness, owing to the fact that a loved one's attention to you is going to be more than you had hoped for during this coming week.

### Monday 19 December

Birthday Greetings to You. All the indications are that you should indeed have a lucky year ahead of you, especially where finances are concerned, so take advantage of each situation as it comes. Try your level best not to let a rather dogmatic person around you influence you against a new friend who is genuinely fond of you.

Towards the end of April, you could receive news about a journey that you hope to make in the near future, which will not have the problems you may have been expecting. Around the June period, do not allow a working colleague to influence you against your own judgment, because by following your intuitions, you should reap benefits from past endeavours.

### Tuesday 20 December

Birthday Greetings to You. You can look forward to a rather mixed year, not a bad one by any means, for the indications are that problems both where work, emotions and finances are concerned, should be easing up quite a bit. Affairs which may have been perplexing you quite a bit recently should certainly have sorted themselves out by the end of May, and a decision which an elderly person takes regarding themselves should both please you and also relieve you greatly.

Whether you are married or single, someone you are extremely fond of will be purchasing a car for the first time, or replacing one, and you should be able to have some happy times, but also find that this vehicle could be helpful where work is concerned.

### Wednesday 21 December

Birthday Greetings to You. You have a year ahead of you in which you should achieve quite a few of your ambitions. There is little doubt that there are changes ahead of you, and you should take full advantage of these. June is the month where you should be able to sort out your day-to-day difficulties, and make a schedule for yourself which should be fairly easy to keep, and at the same time, be extremely satisfactory.

Where your working life is concerned, your relationship with your colleagues should be more comfortable. Financially, your situation is quite promising, and by May, you should be feeling very content in this direction. Health should be O.K. apart from the occasional minor ailment.



# PEANUTS

featuring  
"Good ol'  
Charlie Brown"  
by SCHULZ

RATS!

I HAVE TO READ THIS BOOK FOR SCHOOL BY TOMORROW

I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'D CARE TO READ IT TO ME, WOULD YOU?

READING TAKES EFFORT...I HATE TO DO ANYTHING THAT TAKES EFFORT

LISTENING TAKES EFFORT, TOO, YOU KNOW...

I WASN'T GOING TO LISTEN!

# Tarzan

by EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

AS THE RAIN STOPS, THE MONKEYS BEGIN DRIVING THROUGH THE HOLE IN THE TEMPLE'S ROOF. SULEIMAN KHAN GIVES THE ORDER TO EXECUTE THE PRISONERS.

ALLAH HAS SMILED ON YOU AND GRANTED YOU A SWIFT AND ALMOST PAINLESS DEATH. CONSIDER YOURSELF FAR MORE FORTUNATE THAN YOUR FRIEND, TARZAN.

IN THE RAIN FOREST, JANE AND THE RESCUE PARTY CONTINUE THEIR SEARCH.

THESE PIRATES OUTNUMBER US AT LEAST THREE TO ONE, LADY GREYSTOKE.

I NEVER SAID THIS WOULD BE EASY. THEY OUTNUMBERED US ONE HUNDRED TO ONE. WE WOULD STILL HAVE TO TRY.

AS JANE'S PARTY CLOSES IN, TARZAN'S BONDS ARE BROKEN BY GOLI, THE ORANGUTAN WHOSE BALU HE SAVED FROM A FIRE.

QUICKLY, GOLI!

FREE AGAIN, TARZAN'S FURY IS UNLEASHED!

AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS, TARZAN MAKES THE DYAKS PAY A CUEL PRICE FOR THE HEADS THEY WOULD TAKE.

MUJRO'S WAZIRI AND THE FRENCH SAILORS TURN THE BATTLE INTO A ROUT. THE DYAKS COLLAPSE IN THE ONE LAST GASP. SULEIMAN KHAN SEIZES THIS CHANCE TO ESCAPE WITH GOLI, WITH MARKHAM AS HIS HOSTAGE.

# FRANK & ERNEST

HERE'S ONE, ERNIE - "HELP WANTED: GROUNDKEEPER..."

MY UNCLE WAS A GROUNDKEEPER FOR YEARS.

WHICH BALLPARK?

AT THE COFFEE COMPANY.

WHAT A GRIND. HE HATED IT!

HE STARTED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HEAP AND STAYED THERE.

YOU KNOW HOW IT IS...

THE DRIPS IN MIDDLE MANAGEMENT GET ALL THE PERKS.

THAVES 10-23  
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# GARFIELD

THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD PLACE FOR A LITTLE NAP-NAP

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CLICK WHIRRR

SPLAT!

HELLO, MOM? THE WASHING MACHINE JUST SPIT OUT MY JOCKEY SHORTS

THAT'S ONE THING I'D NEVER ADMIT TO MY MOTHER

JFM/DAMS 11-20



1995年12月15日